JUMP COMICS

●突入

NO.25

HUNTER × HUNTER

ハンター × ハンター

冨樫義博

DIGITAL

DIGITAL COLORED COMICS

25

SHUEISHA

JUMP COMICS

NO.25 突入
ナンバー とつにゅう

冨樫義博
とがしよしひろ

FACING THE PALACE, EACH OF THE EXITS...

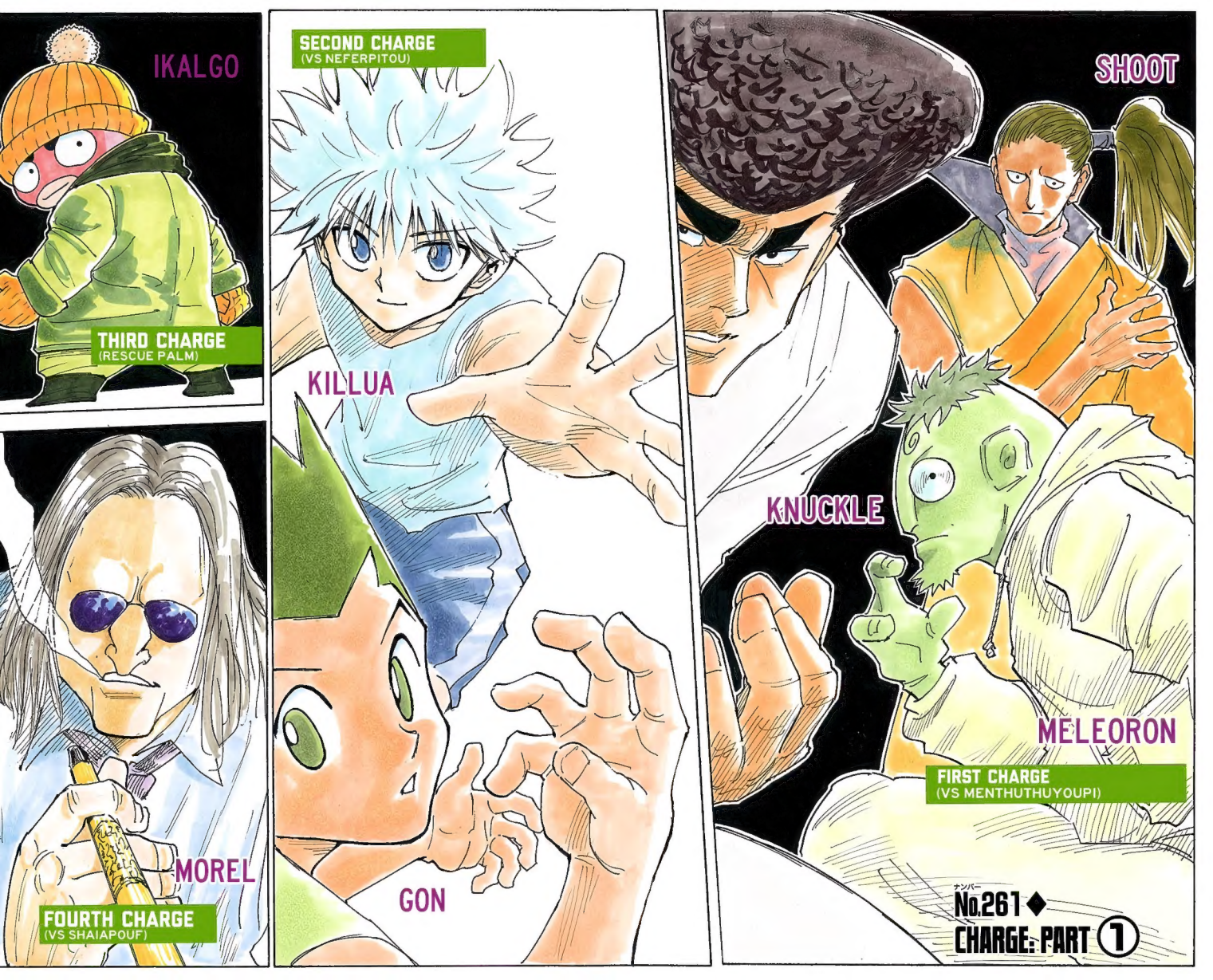
...ARE PROGRESSIVELY CLOSER TO THE THRONE ROOM.

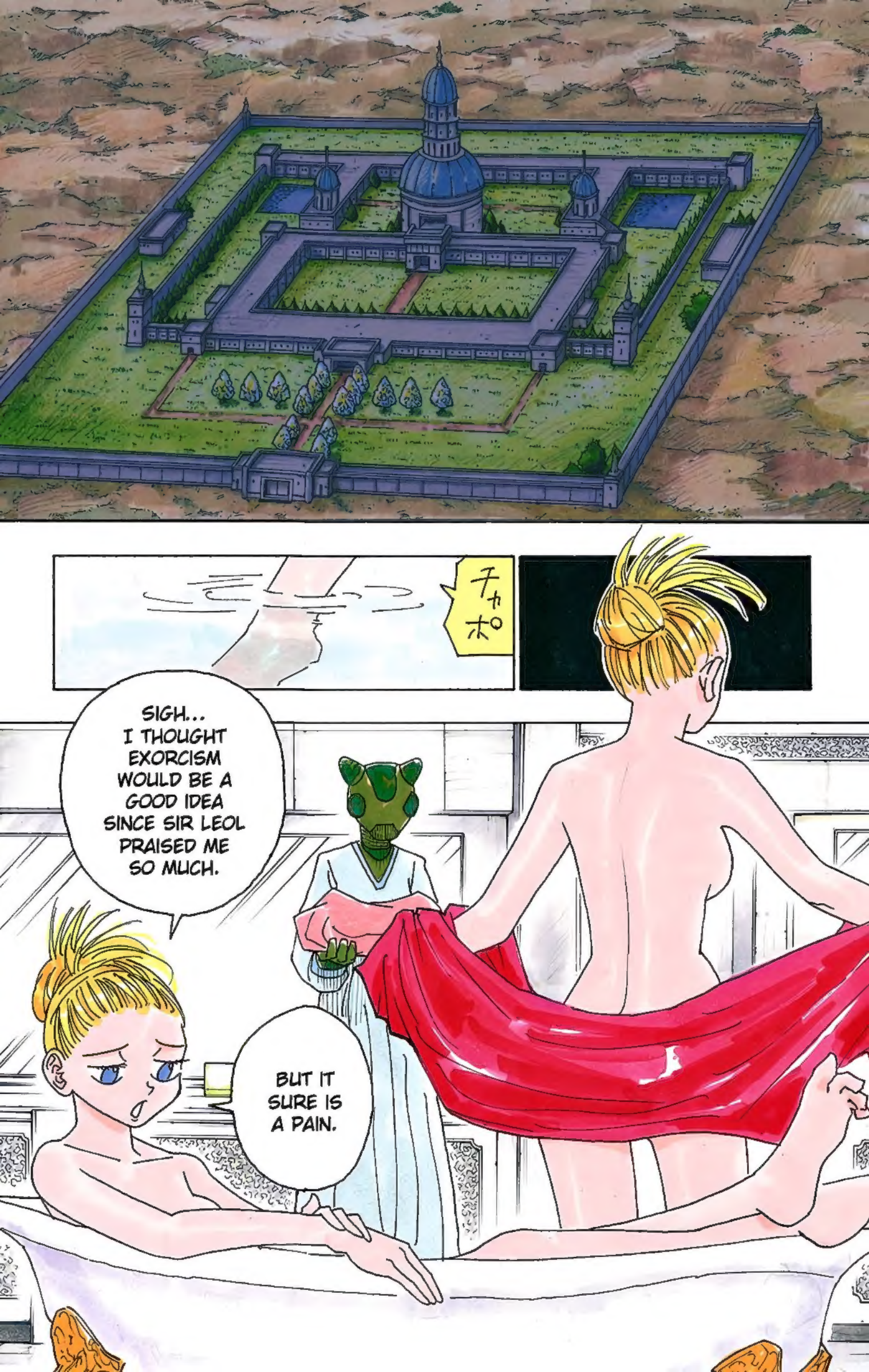
OKAY.

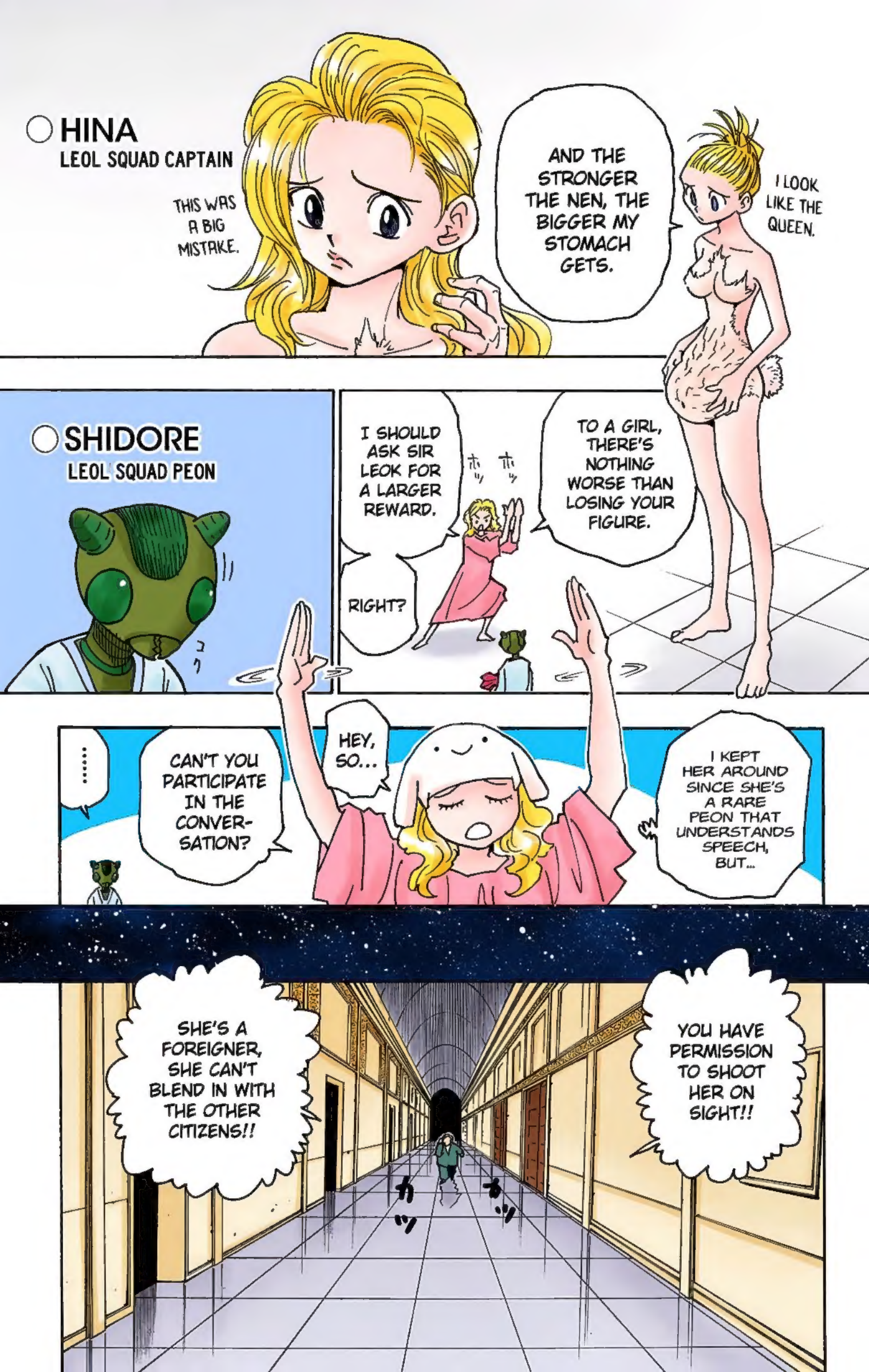
I THINK WE'RE ALL IN AGREEMENT.

...FROM THE EXIT BY THE CENTRAL STAIRCASE!!

WE'LL ALL CHARGE IN AS CLOSE AS WE CAN...


IKALGO
THIRD CHARGE
(RESCUE PALM)
MOREL
FOURTH CHARGE
(VS SHAIAPOUF)
SECOND CHARGE
(VS NEFERPITOU)
KILLUA
GON
SHOOT
KNUCKLE
MELEORON
FIRST CHARGE
(VS MENTHUTHUYOUPI)
ナンバー
No.261◆
CHARGE: PART ①


チャポ
SIGH... I THOUGHT EXORCISM WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA SINCE SIR LEOL PRAISED ME SO MUCH.
BUT IT SURE IS A PAIN.


HINA
LEOL SQUAD CAPTAIN
THIS WAS A BIG MISTAKE.
AND THE STRONGER THE NEN, THE BIGGER MY STOMACH GETS.
I LOOK LIKE THE QUEEN.
SHIDORE
LEOL SQUAD PEON
I SHOULD ASK SIR LEOK FOR A LARGER REWARD.
RIGHT?
TO A GIRL, THERE'S NOTHING WORSE THAN LOSING YOUR FIGURE.
.....
CAN'T YOU PARTICIPATE IN THE CONVER-SATION?
HEY, SO...
I KEPT HER AROUND SINCE SHE'S A RARE PEON THAT UNDERSTANDS SPEECH, BUT...
SHE'S A FOREIGNER, SHE CAN'T BLEND IN WITH THE OTHER CITIZENS!!
YOU HAVE PERMISSION TO SHOOT HER ON SIGHT!!

HELLO, IT'S ME! IT'S ABOUT...
DAMN!! DAMN!! WHY DID SHE DO THIS...?!

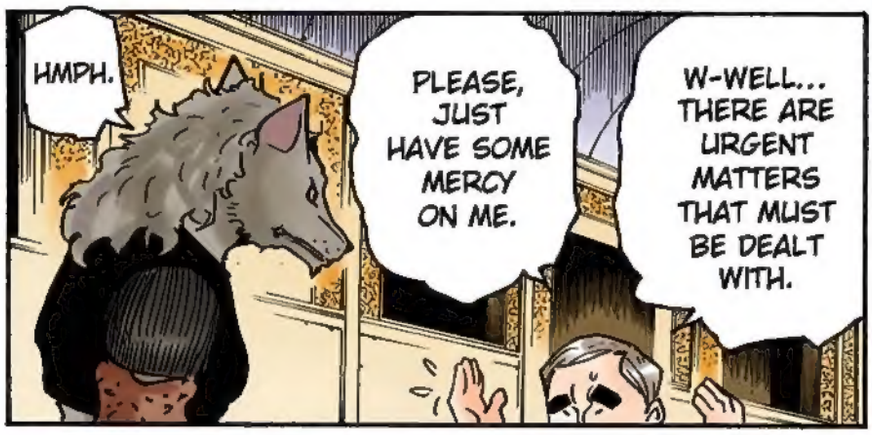
DIRECTOR BIZEFF
EAST GORTEAU SECRETARY OF STATE

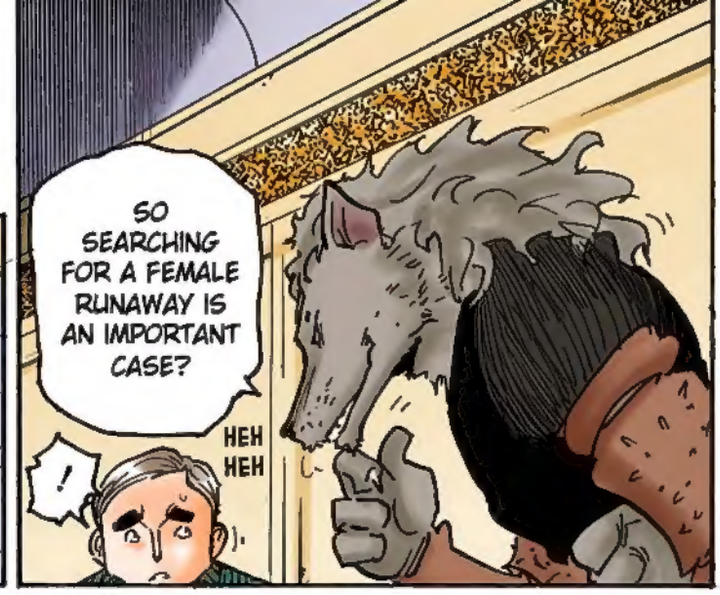
HEY!

WELFIN
FORMER SQUADRON LEADER TO THE QUEEN

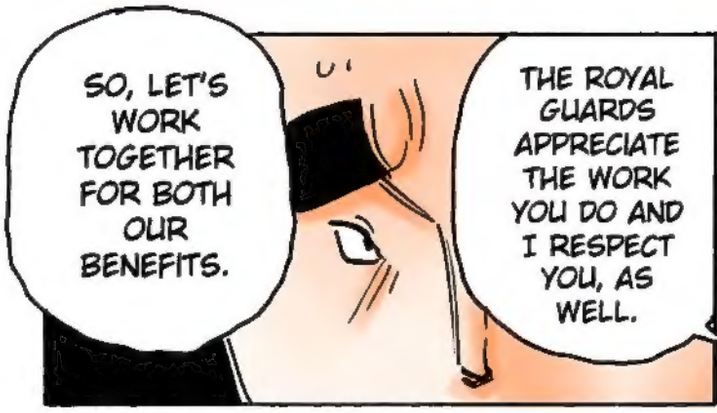
NEXT TIME I CATCH YOU, I'LL RIP YOUR ARM OFF ALONG WITH THE PHONE.
PLUS, I CAN HEAR WHAT YOU'RE SAYING.
THE FREQUENCIES IRRITATE MY EARS AND IT GIVES ME A HEADACHE.

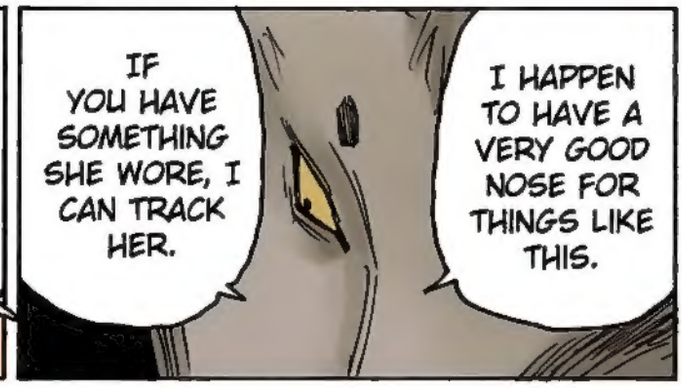
YES!
I'LL CALL YOU BACK LATER.
HOW MANY TIMES HAVE I TOLD YOU NOT TO USE YOUR CELL PHONE HERE?


HMPH.
PLEASE, JUST HAVE SOME MERCY ON ME.
W-WELL... THERE ARE URGENT MATTERS THAT MUST BE DEALT WITH.

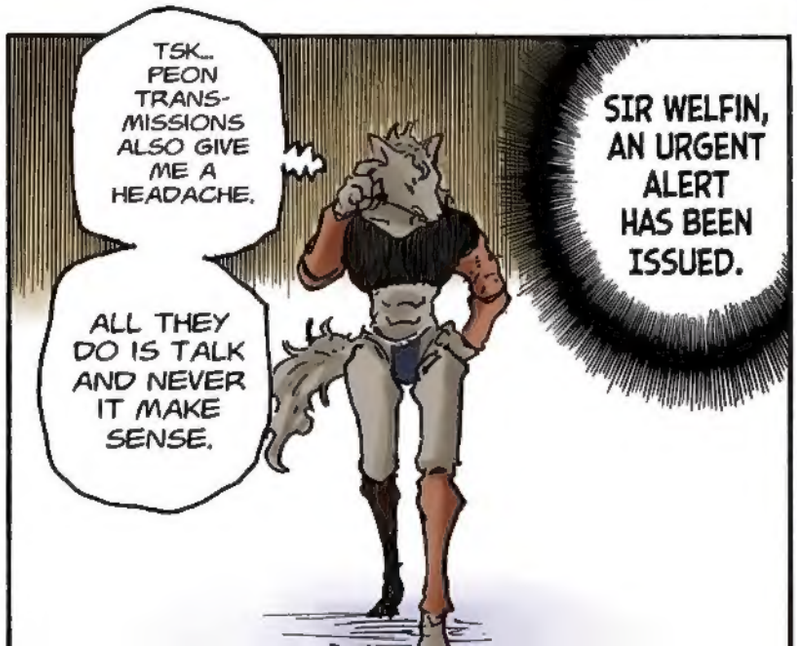

SO SEARCHING FOR A FEMALE RUNAWAY IS AN IMPORTANT CASE?
HEH HEH
!

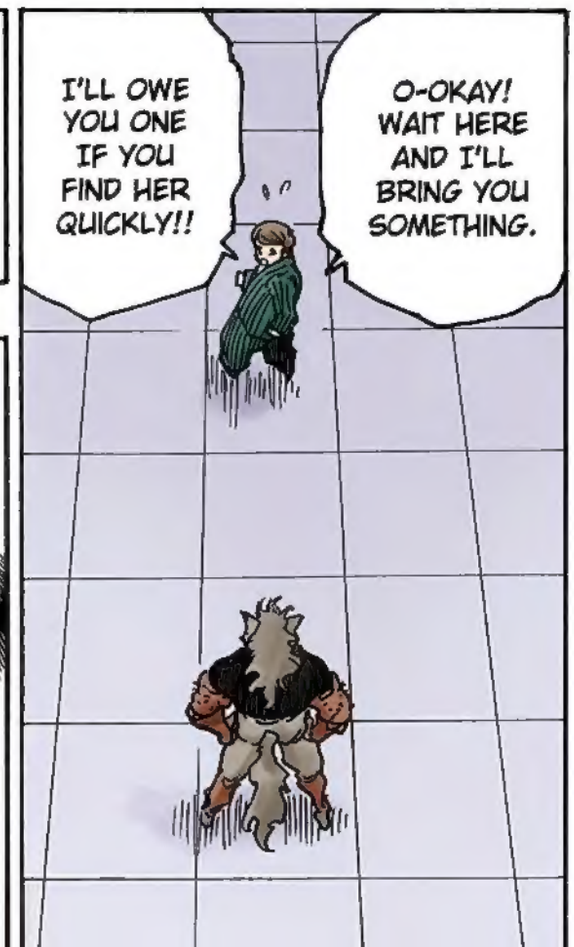
REALLY ?!
R-
I CAN FIND HER, YOU KNOW...

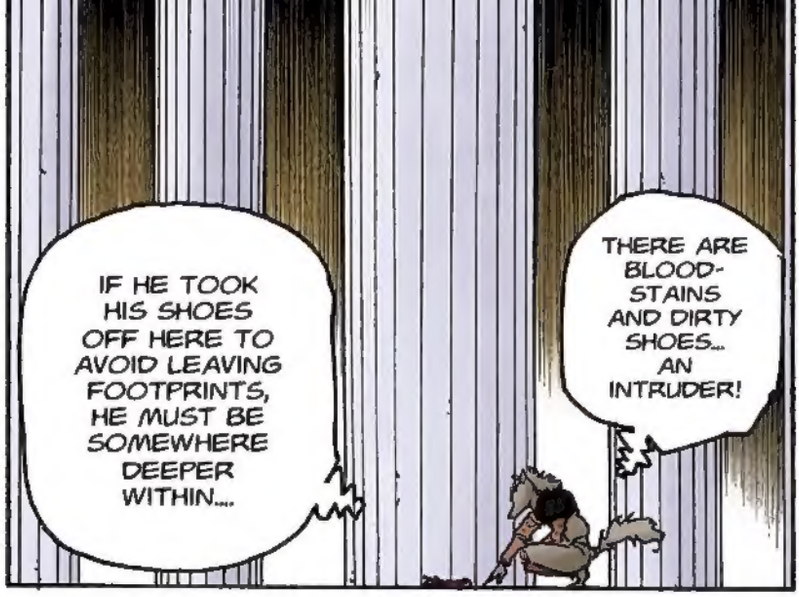

SO, LET'S WORK TOGETHER FOR BOTH OUR BENEFITS.
THE ROYAL GUARDS APPRECIATE THE WORK YOU DO AND I RESPECT YOU, AS WELL.

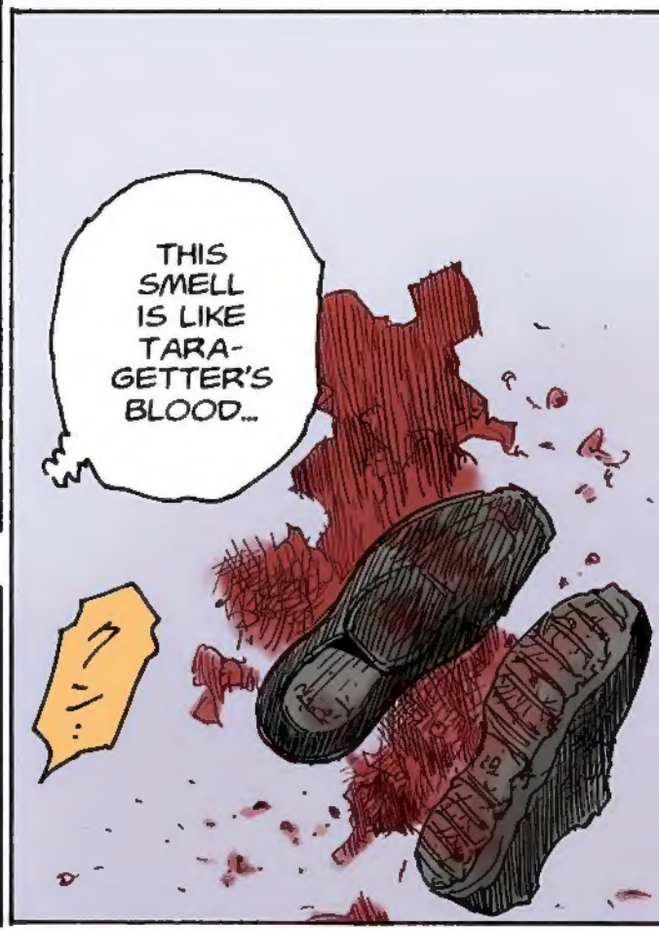

IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING SHE WORE, I CAN TRACK HER.
I HAPPEN TO HAVE A VERY GOOD NOSE FOR THINGS LIKE THIS.

TO ACCOMPLISH THAT, I HAVE TO BRING DOWN BIZEFF, NOT THE KING!!
HEH HEH... I WILL BECOME THE KING BEHIND THE SCENES...!


TSK... PEON TRANS-MISSIONS ALSO GIVE ME A HEADACHE.
ALL THEY DO IS TALK AND NEVER IT MAKE SENSE.
SIR WELFIN, AN URGENT ALERT HAS BEEN ISSUED.


I'LL OWE YOU ONE IF YOU FIND HER QUICKLY!!
O-OKAY! WAIT HERE AND I'LL BRING YOU SOMETHING.

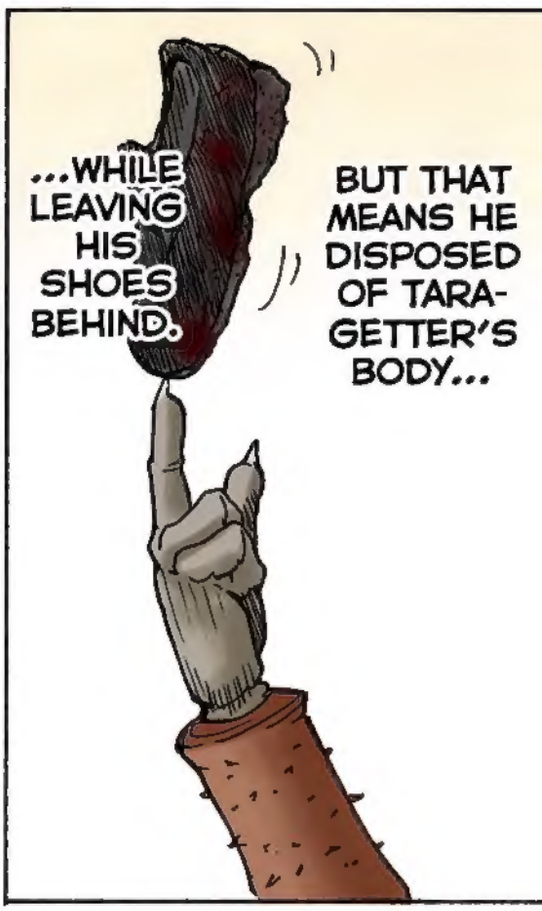

IF HE TOOK HIS SHOES OFF HERE TO AVOID LEAVING FOOTPRINTS, HE MUST BE SOMEWHERE DEEPER WITHIN....
THERE ARE BLOOD-STAINS AND DIRTY SHOES... AN INTRUDER!

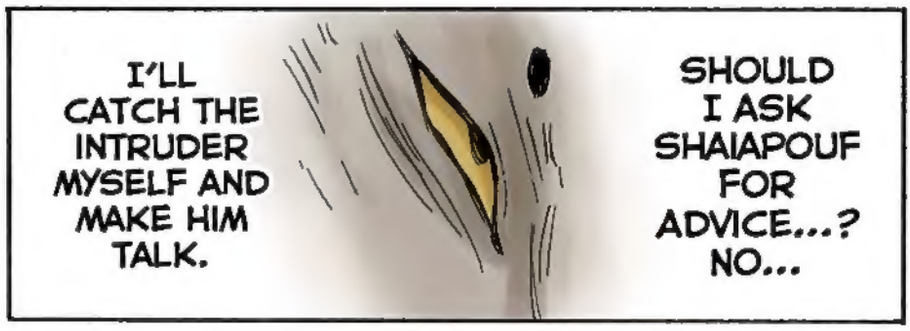

THIS SMELL IS LIKE TARA-GETTER'S BLOOD...

IT HAS MUD, SO IT MUST'VE BEEN FROM THAT DAY IT RAINED A WEEK AGO.
HE DIDN'T HIDE HIS SHOES BECAUSE HE HAD A PRESSING MISSION AND COULDN'T AFFORD TO LOSE TIME...

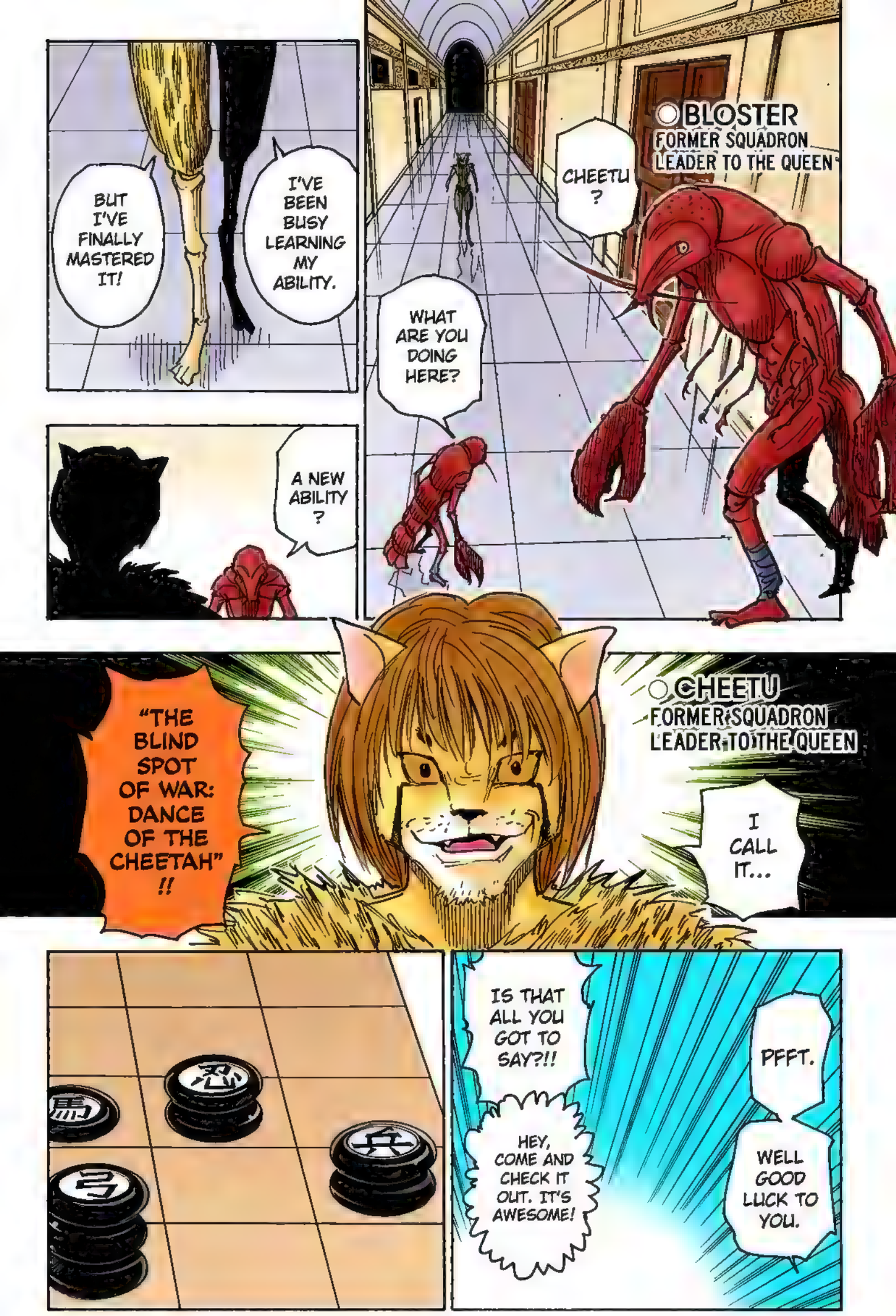
I'M PRETTY SURE THAT THE INTRUDER KILLED HIM.
THAT WAS THE DAY TARAGETTER WENT MISSING...

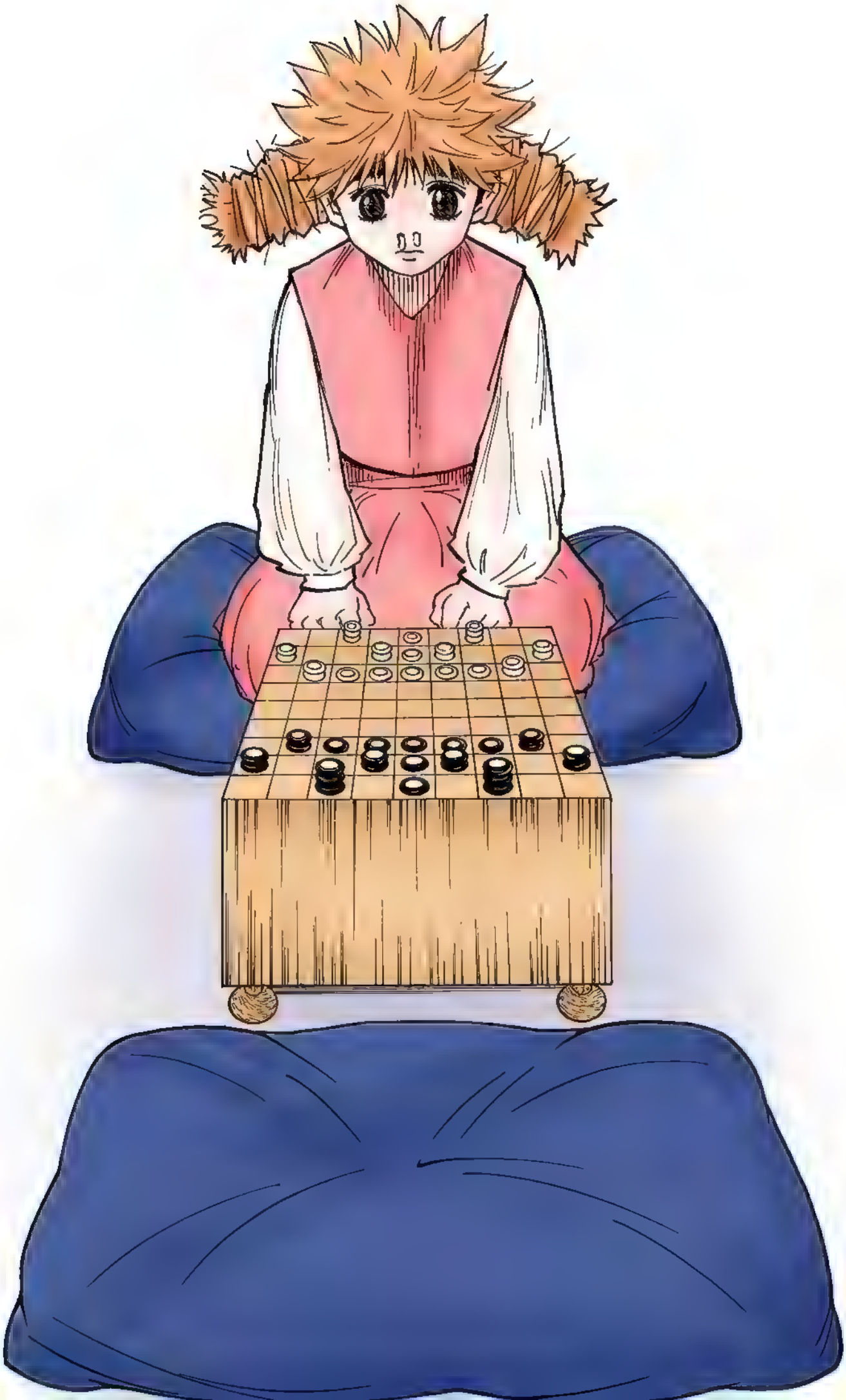
WAS KIDNAPPING A SOLDIER HIS MISSION...? WHY WOULD THEY DO THAT...? DAMN IT... I DON'T GET IT...
THERE'S NO BLOOD TRAIL NEARBY... IF HE WRAPPED THE BODY IN SOMETHING TO MOVE IT, HE MUST'VE COME PREPARED.

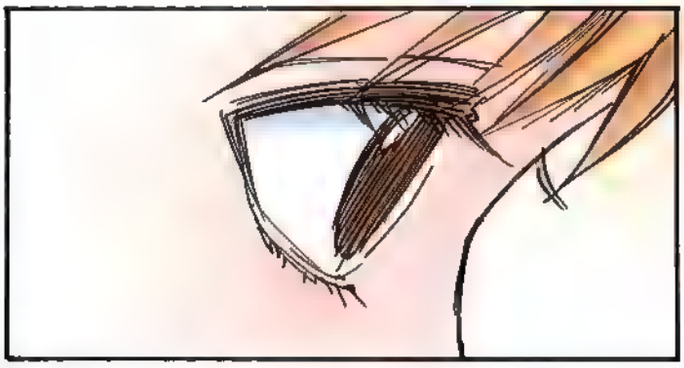

...WHILE LEAVING HIS SHOES BEHIND.
BUT THAT MEANS HE DISPOSED OF TARA-GETTER'S BODY...

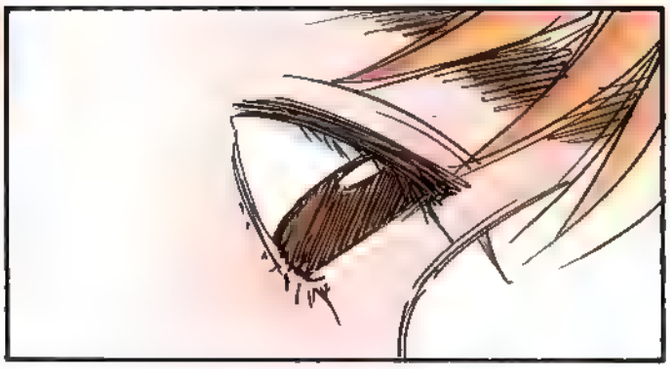

I'LL CATCH THE INTRUDER MYSELF AND MAKE HIM TALK.
SHOULD I ASK SHAIAPOUF FOR ADVICE...? NO...

SNF
SNF
THIS GUY TAKES PRECEDENCE OVER BIZEFF'S WOMAN...
THE TRACKS LEAD DEEPER INSIDE THE PALACE.
YOU TWO, COME WITH ME!!
YES, SIR!
INZAGI
WELFIN SQUAD SOLDIER
MAENOLE
WELFIN SQUAD SOLDIER
BLO!!

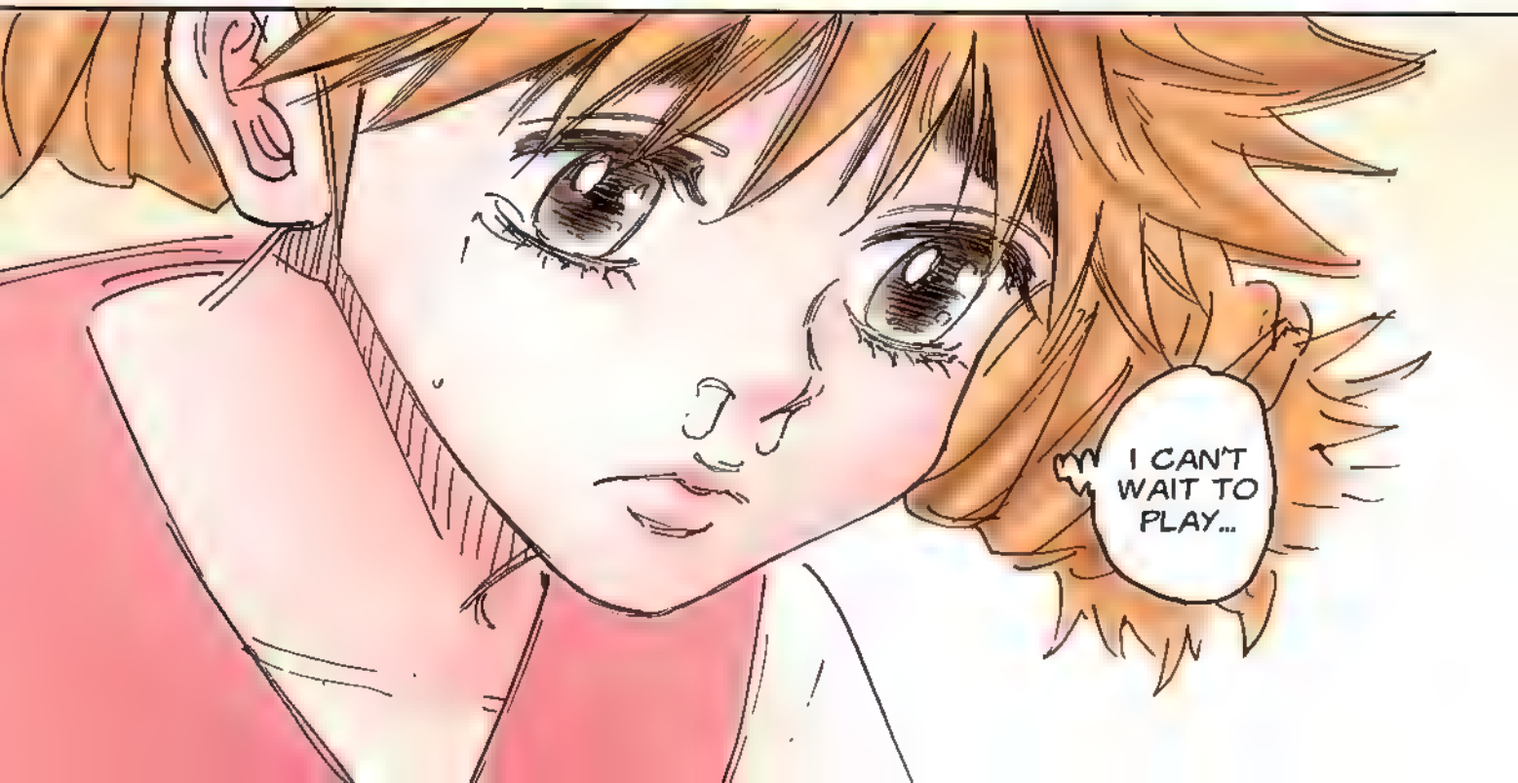

BUT I'VE FINALLY MASTERED IT!
I'VE BEEN BUSY LEARNING MY ABILITY.
BLOSTER
FORMER SQUADRON LEADER TO THE QUEEN
CHEETU ?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
A NEW ABILITY ?
"THE BLIND SPOT OF WAR: DANCE OF THE CHEETAH" !!
CHEETU
FORMER SQUADRON LEADER TO THE QUEEN
I CALL IT...
IS THAT ALL YOU GOT TO SAY?!!
HEY, COME AND CHECK IT OUT. IT'S AWESOME!
PFFT.
WELL GOOD LUCK TO YOU.







BUT HE DIDN'T TELL ME...
I ASKED HIM HIS NAME...


I CAN'T WAIT TO PLAY...

AM I...?

WHO...

...ARE MINDLESS PUPPETS.

MY SUBJECTS BELOW ME...

IN A BORROWED CASTLE.

A NAME-LESS KING.

HEH HEH

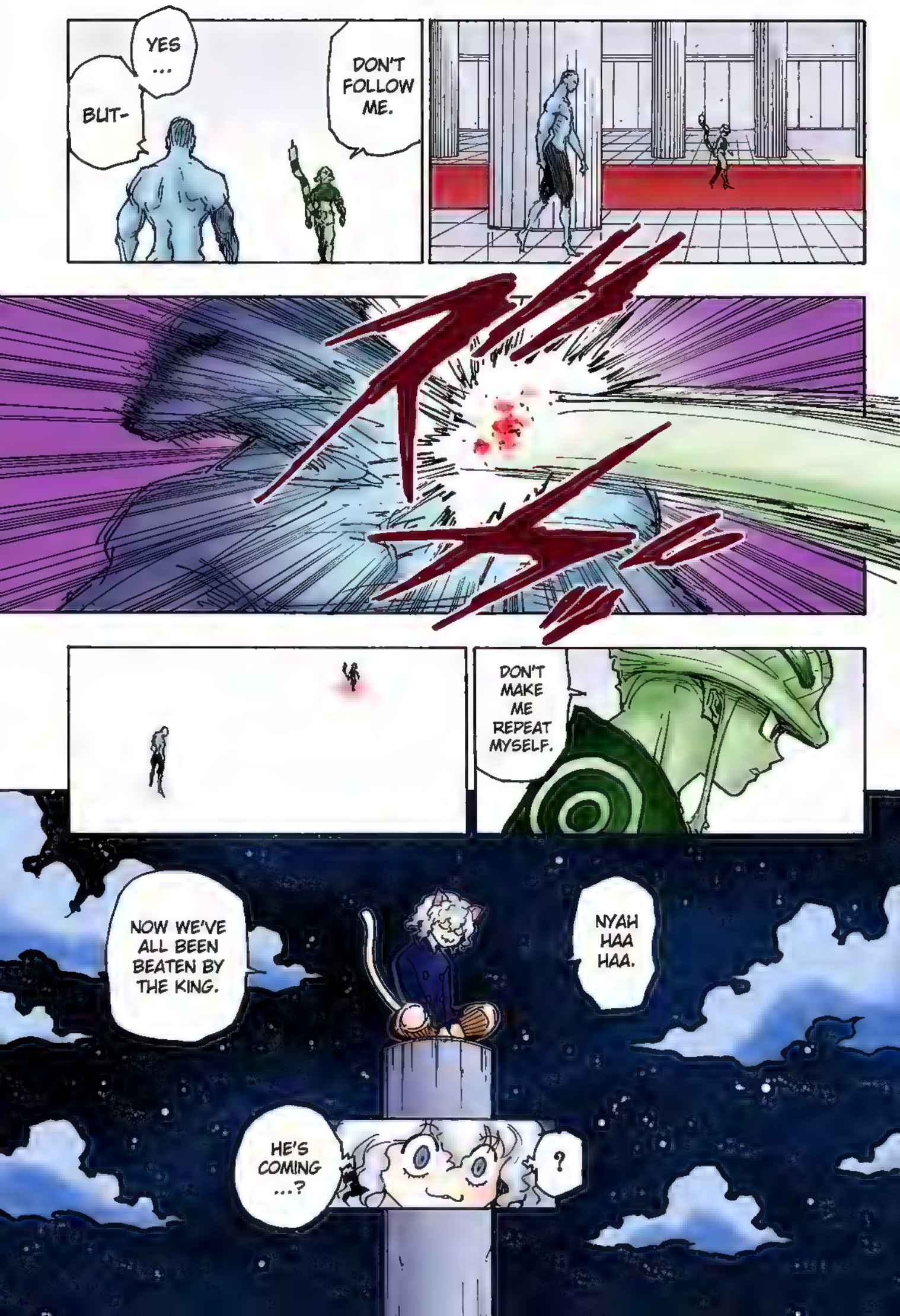
HEH

THEN...

...IS THE FATE THAT THE HEAVENS HAVE GRANTED ME.

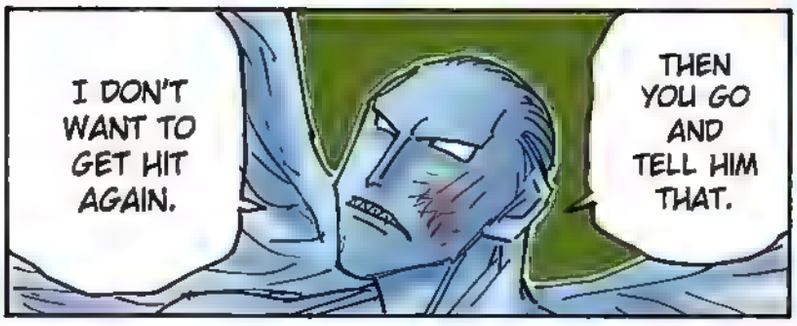
IF THIS...

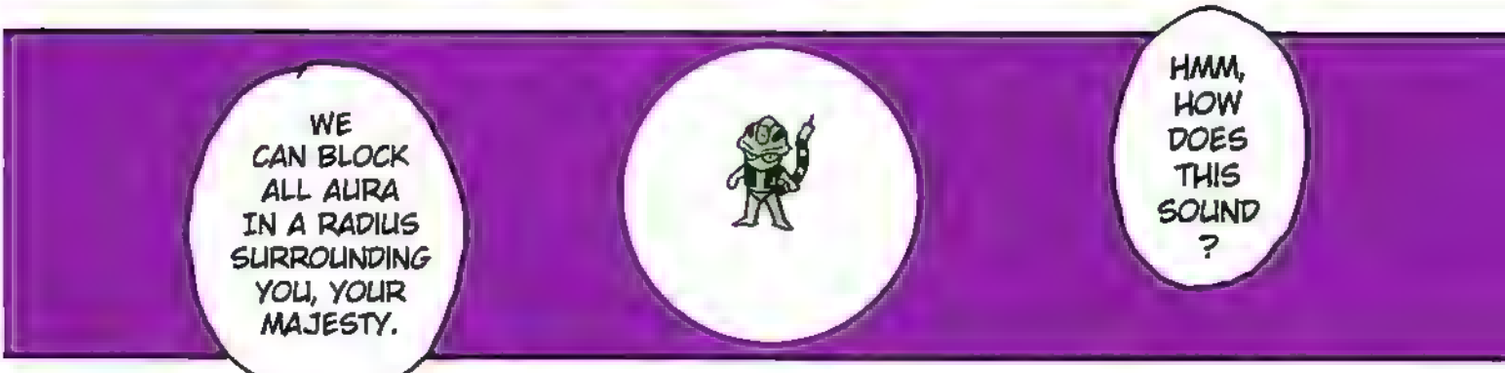
I HAVE NO DOUBT THAT I...
...SHALL BE SLOWLY BORED TO DEATH !!!

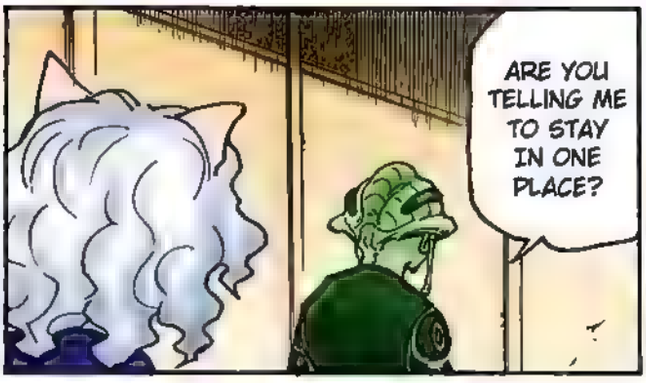

YES ...
BUT-
DON'T FOLLOW ME.
DON'T MAKE ME REPEAT MYSELF.
NOW WE'VE ALL BEEN BEATEN BY THE KING.
NYAH HAA HAA.
HE'S COMING ...?
?

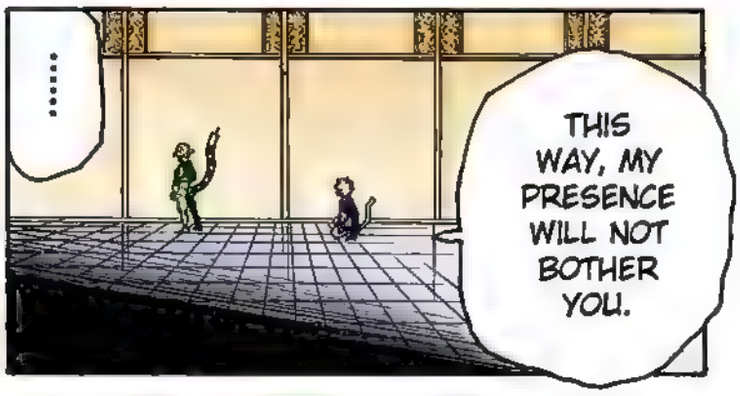
BUT, I CAN'T REMOVE OUR SECURITY.
I FIGURED HE WOULD BE SAYING THAT SOON....

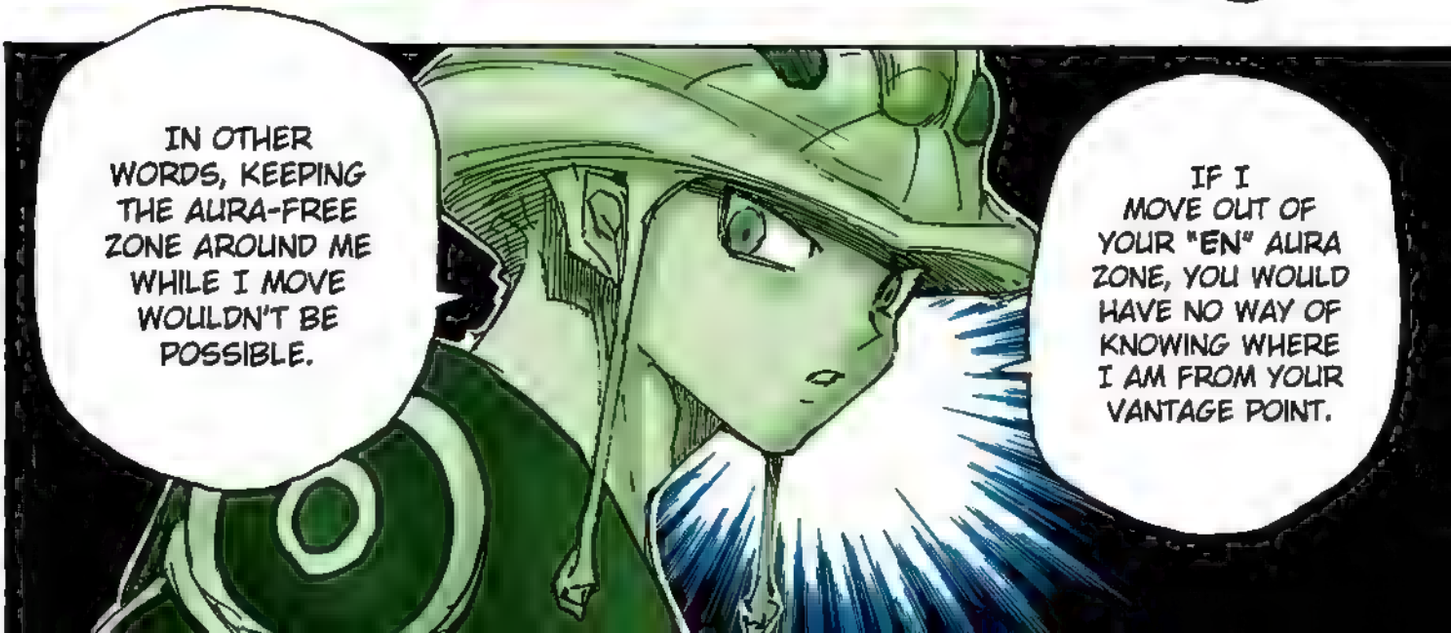
NYAH ?
THE KING SAYS YOUR "EN" IS IRRITATING HIM.


I DON'T WANT TO GET HIT AGAIN.
THEN YOU GO AND TELL HIM THAT.

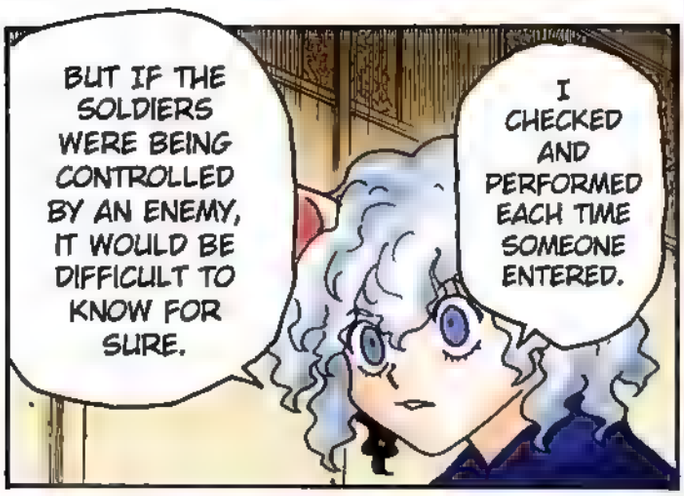

WE CAN BLOCK ALL AURA IN A RADIUS SURROUNDING YOU, YOUR MAJESTY.
HMM, HOW DOES THIS SOUND ?


ARE YOU TELLING ME TO STAY IN ONE PLACE?


.....
THIS WAY, MY PRESENCE WILL NOT BOTHER YOU.

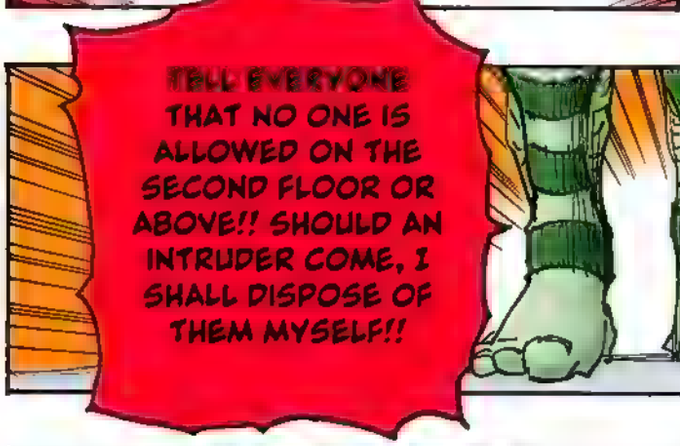

IN OTHER WORDS, KEEPING THE AURA-FREE ZONE AROUND ME WHILE I MOVE WOULDN'T BE POSSIBLE.
IF I MOVE OUT OF YOUR "EN" AURA ZONE, YOU WOULD HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING WHERE I AM FROM YOUR VANTAGE POINT.

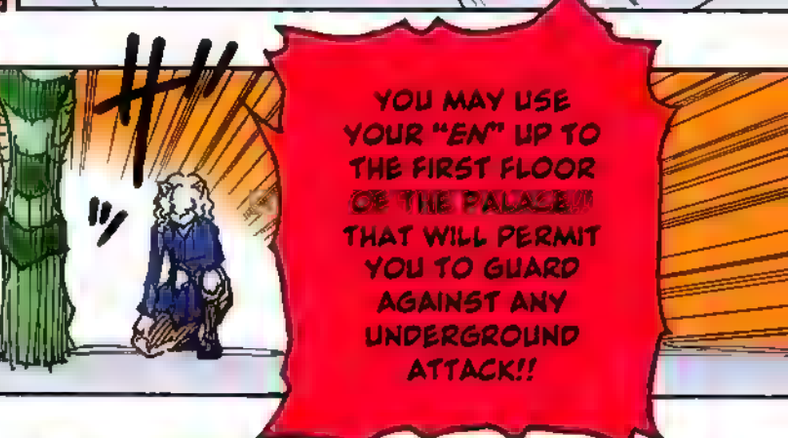
I MUST ORDER YOU TO MOVE YOUR AURA-ZONE. SHOULD I WISH TO GO ELSEWHERE?
SO, IF I DO NOT WISH TO DEAL WITH YOUR PRESENCE, I WILL ONLY BE ABLE TO MOVE WITHIN THAT CONFINED AREA.
THAT WOULD NOT BE OUR PROPOSAL FOR SECURITY.
YES.
I REFUSE TO HAVE MY MOVEMENT CONSTANTLY MONITORED.
KEEP YOUR "EN" FOCUSED OUTSIDE THE PALACE.
I AM AT A LOSS FOR WORDS.
.....
OR ARE YOU SAYING THAT THERE ARE ALREADY ENEMIES INSIDE?
NOT SATISFIED? SHOULD THAT NOT SUFFICE TO GUARD AGAINST OUTSIDE ATTACKS?
.....
I SHALL PUT UP WITH THAT UNTIL TOMORROW'S SELECTION.
.....
YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY CORRECT.
WOULD IT NOT?!
IF THAT'S THE CASE, THAT WOULD BE ADMITTING THAT YOUR "EN" IS COMPLETELY WORTHLESS!
IN ADDITION, MY "EN" IS NOT CAPABLE OF RECOGNIZING AN ENEMY THAT IS ALREADY INSIDE THE PALACE.
IF MY "EN" IS FOCUSED ONLY OUTSIDE, IT COULD NOT DETECT ANY ATTACKS COMING FROM UNDERGROUND.


BUT IF THE SOLDIERS WERE BEING CONTROLLED BY AN ENEMY, IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO KNOW FOR SURE.
I CHECKED AND PERFORMED EACH TIME SOMEONE ENTERED.

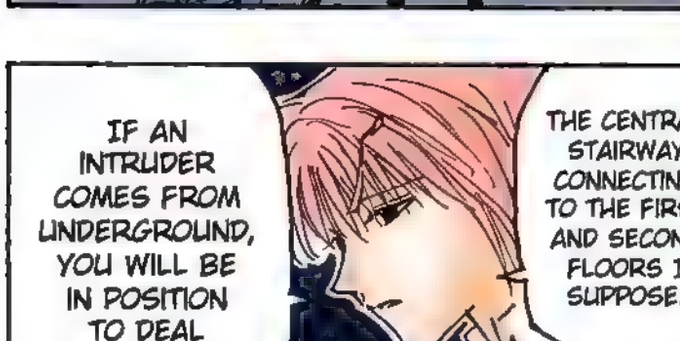
NO.
ELEVEN SOLDIERS STILL REMAIN WITHIN THE PALACE...
ARE YOU REFERRING TO KOMUGI?
AND THEY ARE FREE TO ENTER AND LEAVE AT WILL.
※ INCLUDING LEOL, FLUTTER, AND TARAGETTER.

ENOUGH!
THAT MEANS-

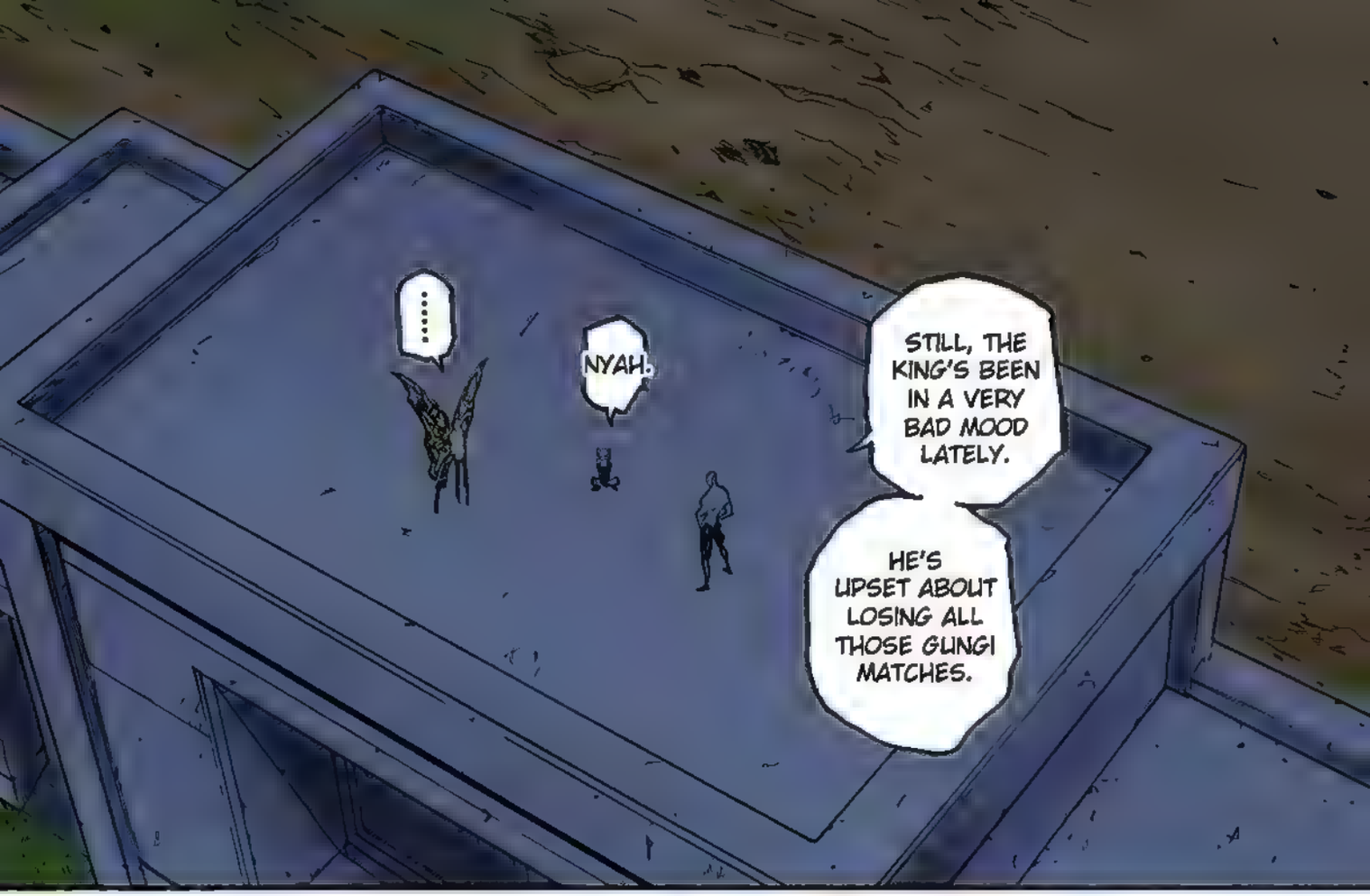

TELL EVERYONE THAT NO ONE IS ALLOWED ON THE SECOND FLOOR OR ABOVE!! SHOULD AN INTRUDER COME, I SHALL DISPOSE OF THEM MYSELF!!


YOU MAY USE YOUR "EN" UP TO THE FIRST FLOOR OF THE PALACE!! THAT WILL PERMIT YOU TO GUARD AGAINST ANY UNDERGROUND ATTACK!!

BUT WHERE DO I GO NOW?
THE OTHER ANTS WERE NEVER ALLOWED ON OR ABOVE THE 2ND FLOOR ANYWAY.

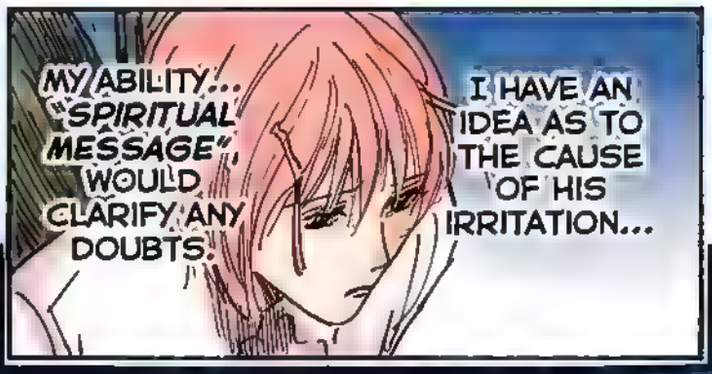

IF AN INTRUDER COMES FROM UNDERGROUND, YOU WILL BE IN POSITION TO DEAL WITH THEM.
THE CENTRAL STAIRWAY CONNECTING TO THE FIRST AND SECOND FLOORS I SUPPOSE.

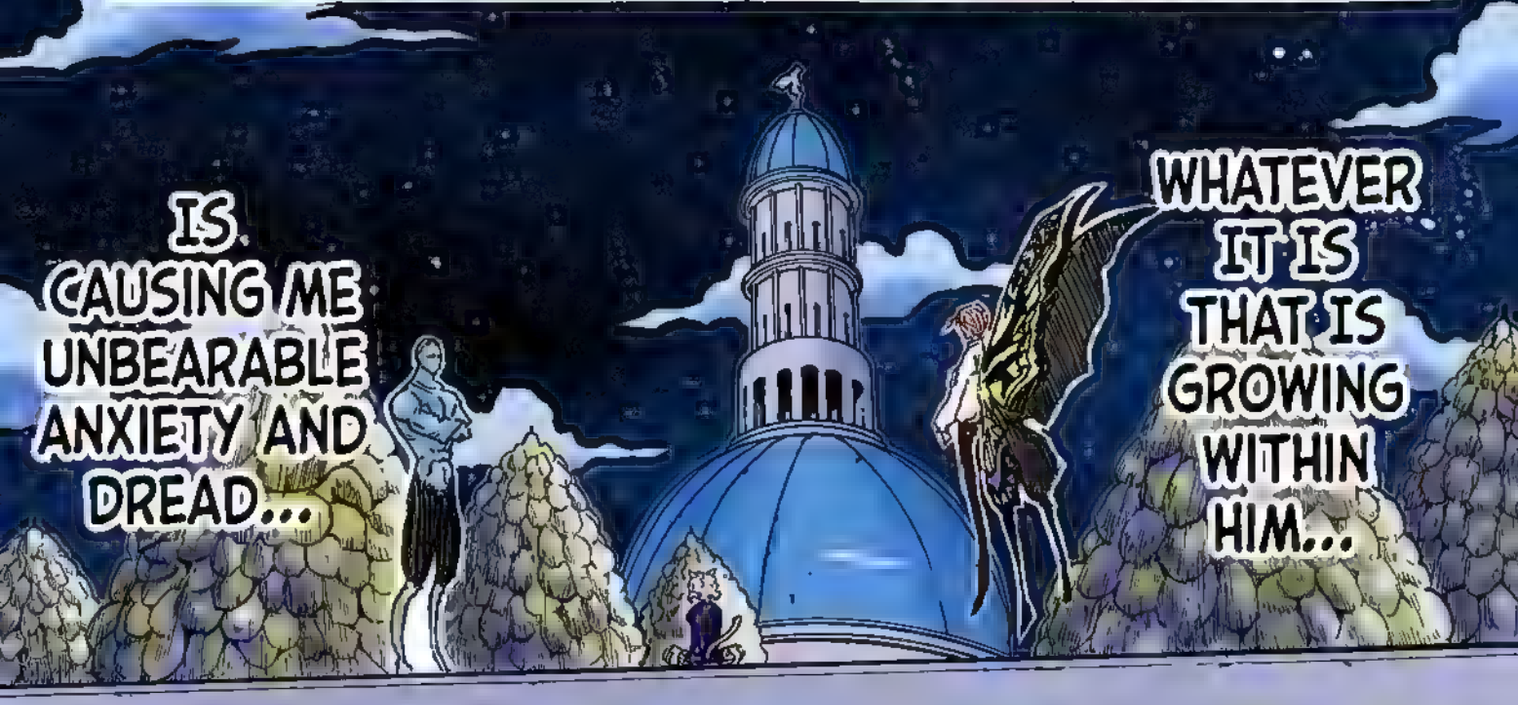
LIKEWISE, YOU WILL NOT COME UNLESS SUMMONED!!
IF YOU DISTURB ME, THERE'LL BE VIOLENT CONSE-QUENCES!!



NO... I'M JUST MAKING EXCUSES... THE TRUTH IS THAT I AM AFRAID.

HOWEVER, THAT WOULD BE AN INSULT TO THE KING...

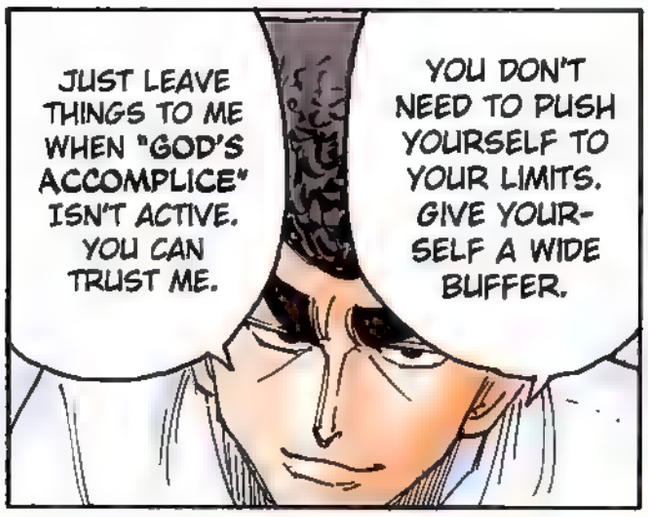




DIGITAL
SHUEISHA JUMP COMICS

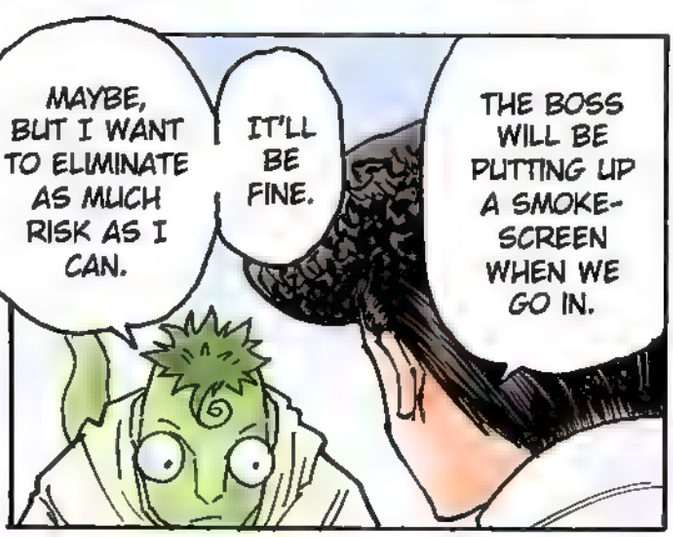
No.262 ◆ CHARGE: PART ②

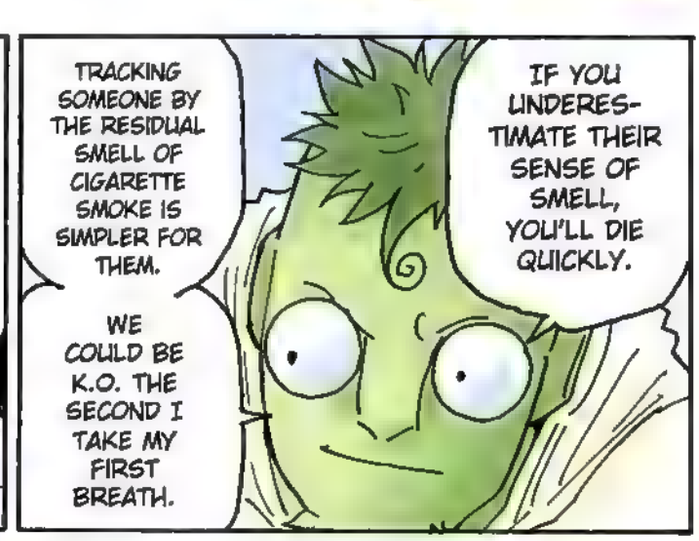
No.262 ◆ CHARGE: PART ②

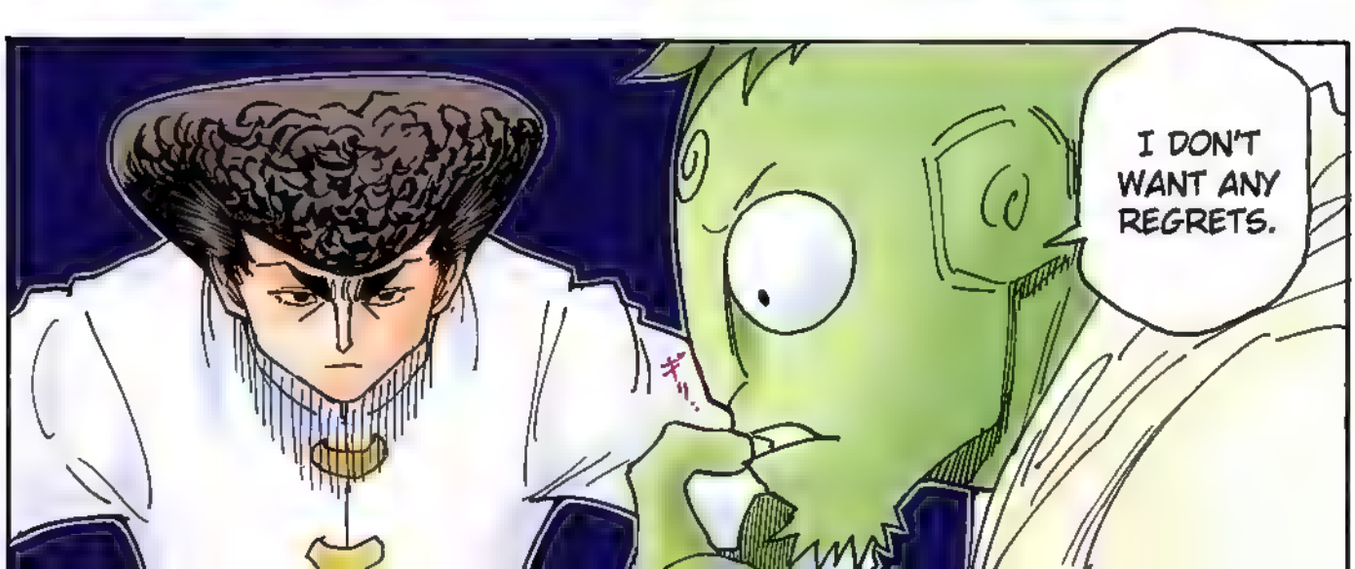

JUST LEAVE THINGS TO ME WHEN "GOD'S ACCOMPLICE" ISN'T ACTIVE. YOU CAN TRUST ME.
YOU DON'T NEED TO PUSH YOURSELF TO YOUR LIMITS. GIVE YOURSELF A WIDE BUFFER.

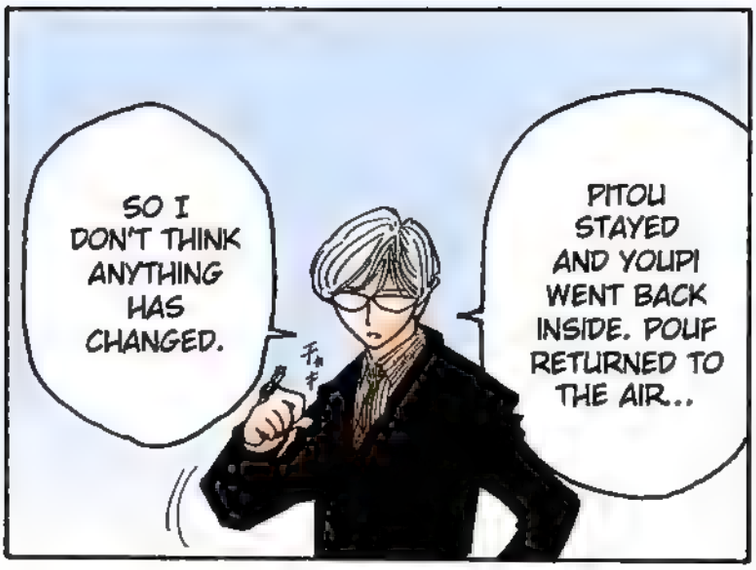
I'LL TAP YOUR SHOULDER TEN SECONDS BEFORE I NEED TO BREATHE, RIGHT?
I KNOW.
MELEORON, ABOUT YOUR ABILITY...
I'LL TAP YOU AGAIN WHEN I START TO HOLD MY BREATH AGAIN!

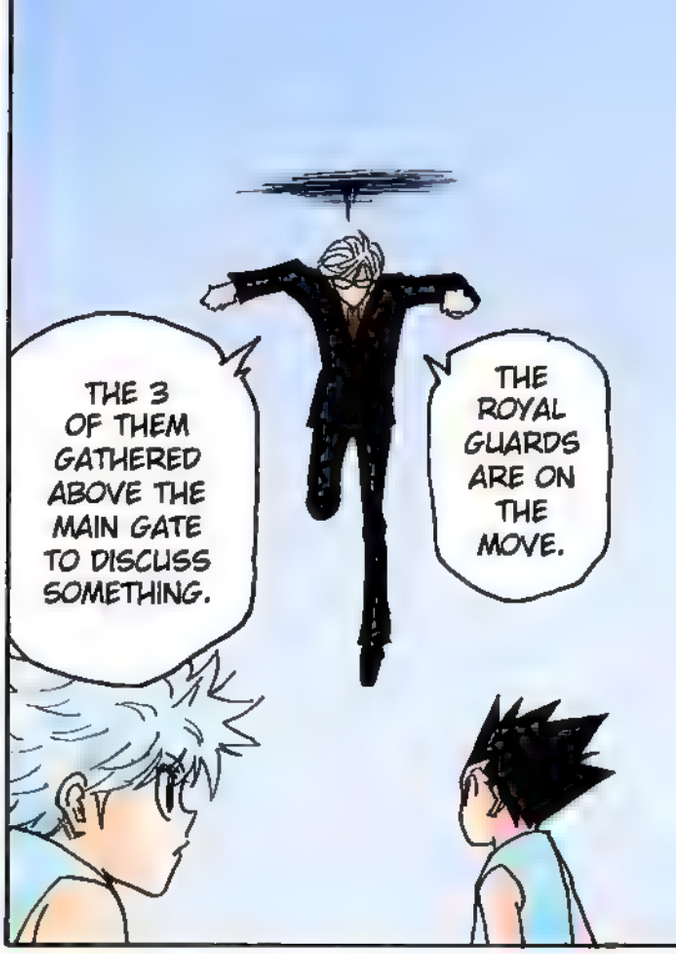
WHY DON'T YOU JUST HAVE A SMOKE?
.....
白い恋人

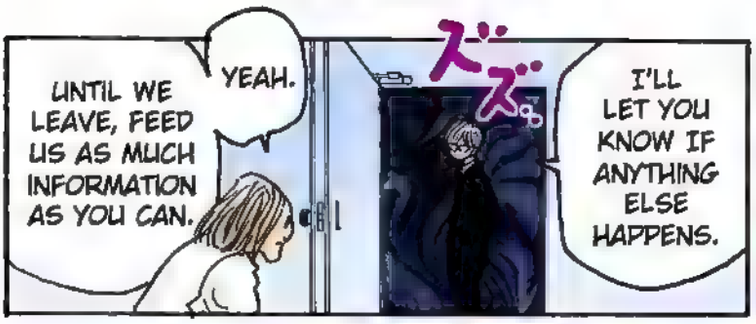

MAYBE, BUT I WANT TO ELIMINATE AS MUCH RISK AS I CAN.
IT'LL BE FINE.
THE BOSS WILL BE PUTTING UP A SMOKE-SCREEN WHEN WE GO IN.

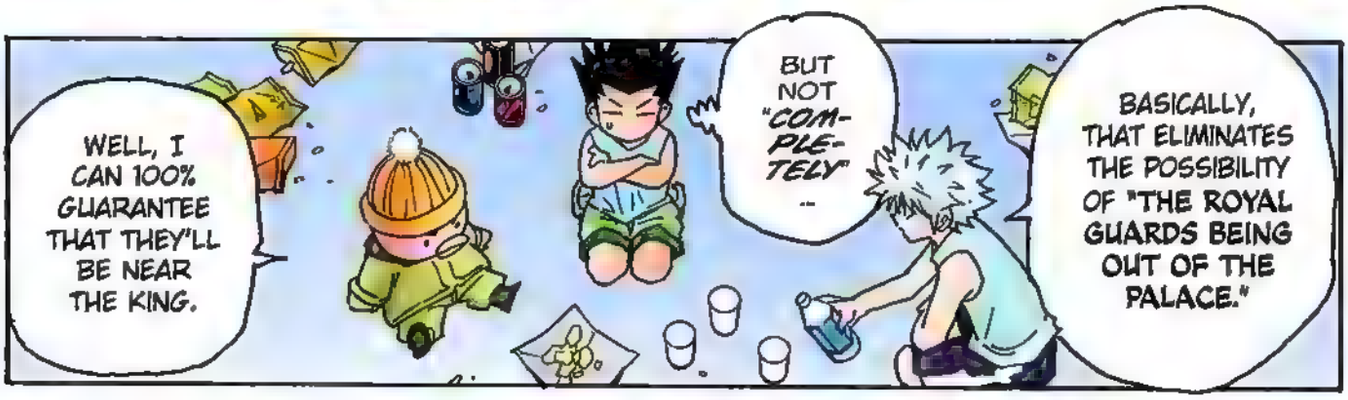

TRACKING SOMEONE BY THE RESIDUAL SMELL OF CIGARETTE SMOKE IS SIMPLER FOR THEM.
WE COULD BE K.O. THE SECOND I TAKE MY FIRST BREATH.
IF YOU UNDERESTIMATE THEIR SENSE OF SMELL, YOU'LL DIE QUICKLY.

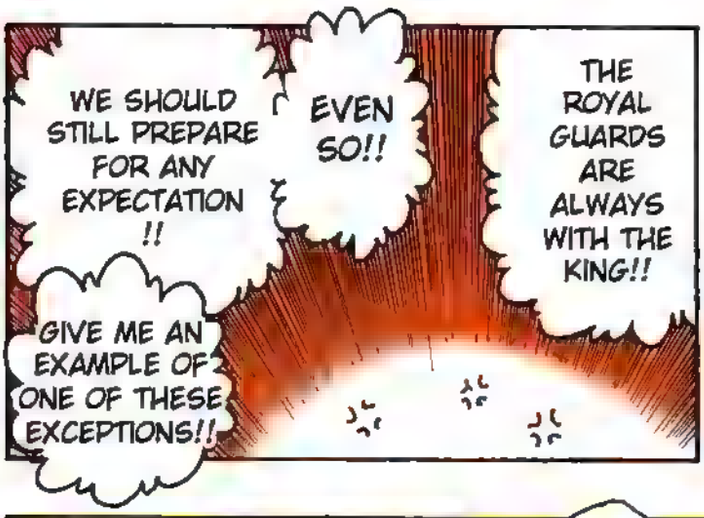

I DON'T WANT ANY REGRETS.


SO I DON'T THINK ANYTHING HAS CHANGED.
PITOU STAYED AND YOUPI WENT BACK INSIDE. POUF RETURNED TO THE AIR...

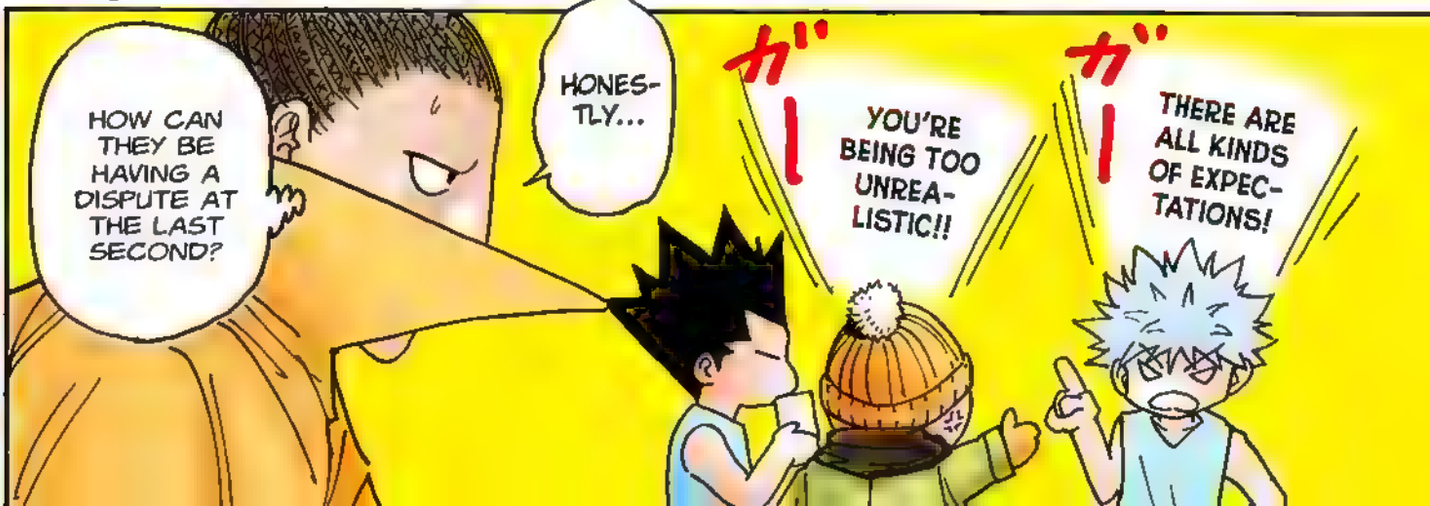

THE 3 OF THEM GATHERED ABOVE THE MAIN GATE TO DISCUSS SOMETHING.
THE ROYAL GUARDS ARE ON THE MOVE.

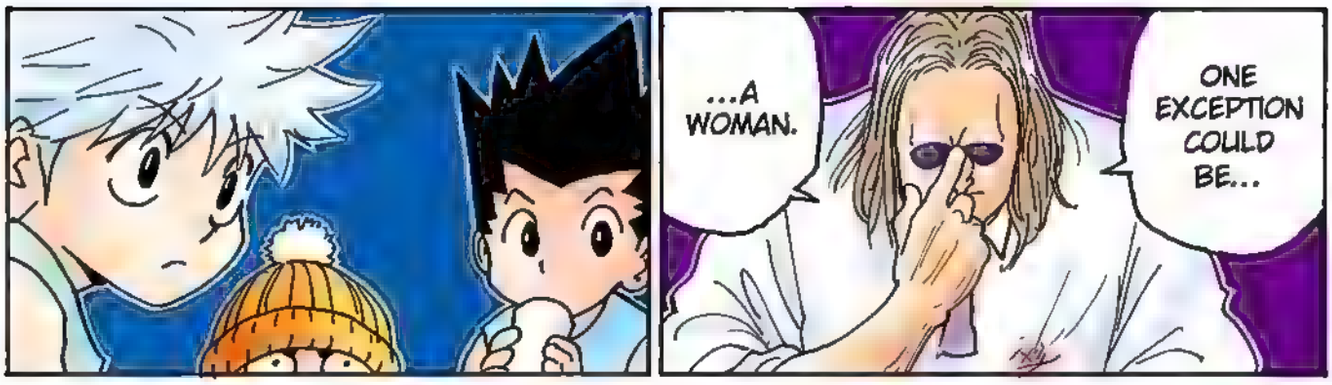

UNTIL WE LEAVE, FEED US AS MUCH INFORMATION AS YOU CAN.
YEAH.
ズズ
I'LL LET YOU KNOW IF ANYTHING ELSE HAPPENS.

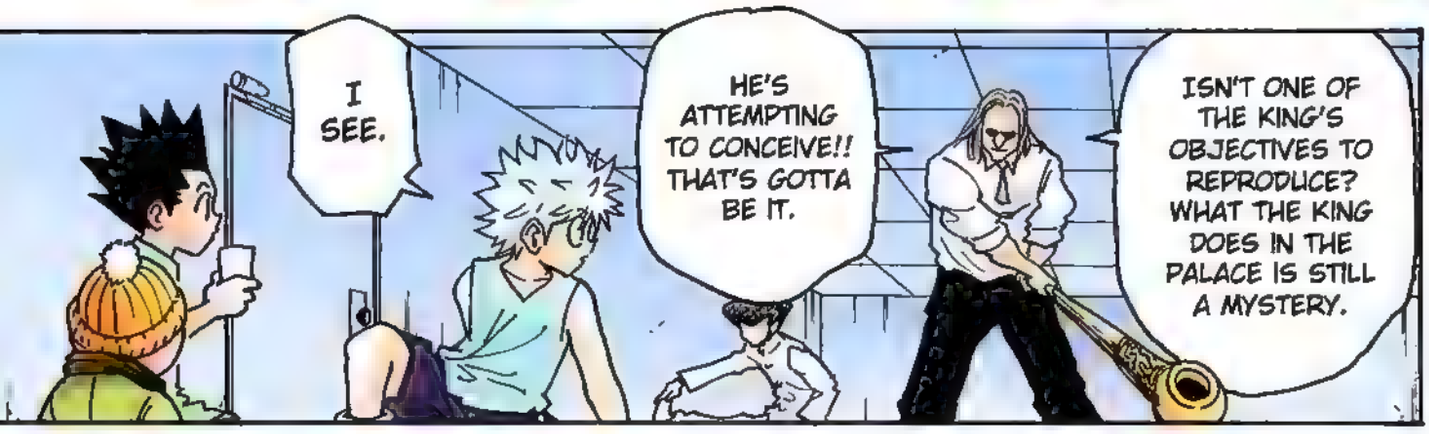

WELL, I CAN 100% GUARANTEE THAT THEY'LL BE NEAR THE KING.
BUT NOT "COMPLETELY"...
BASICALLY, THAT ELIMINATES THE POSSIBILITY OF "THE ROYAL GUARDS BEING OUT OF THE PALACE."

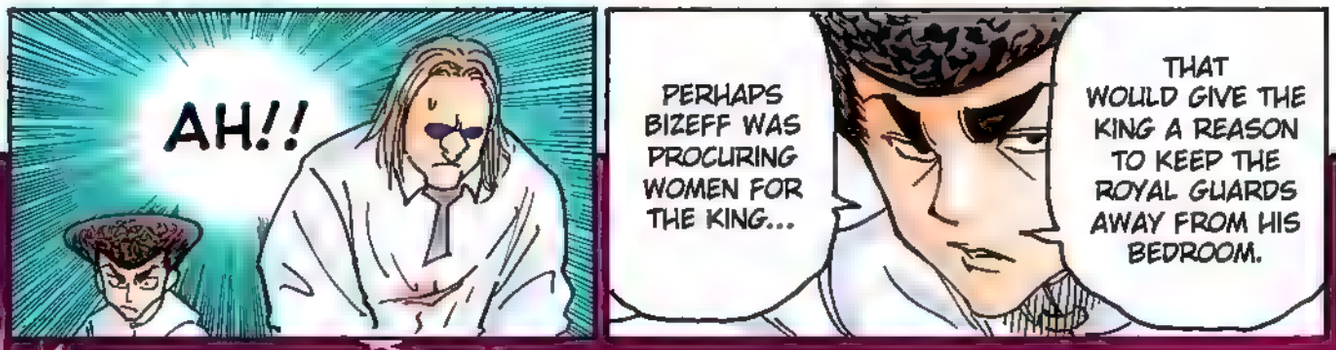

WE SHOULD STILL PREPARE FOR ANY EXPECTATION !!
EVEN SO!!
THE ROYAL GUARDS ARE ALWAYS WITH THE KING!!
GIVE ME AN EXAMPLE OF ONE OF THESE EXCEPTIONS!!

YOU ONLY SAY THAT BECAUSE YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW LOYAL THEY ARE!! THERE'S NO WAY THEY'LL LEAVE HIM!!
YOU CAN'T GUARANTEE ANYTHING!! WE HAVE TO BE PREPARED FOR ANY POSSIBILITY, OR ELSE WE'LL BE SLOW TO REACT WHEN SOMETHING GOES WRONG!


HOW CAN THEY BE HAVING A DISPUTE AT THE LAST SECOND?
HONESTLY...
ガ
YOU'RE BEING TOO UNREALISTIC!!
ガ
THERE ARE ALL KINDS OF EXPECTATIONS!

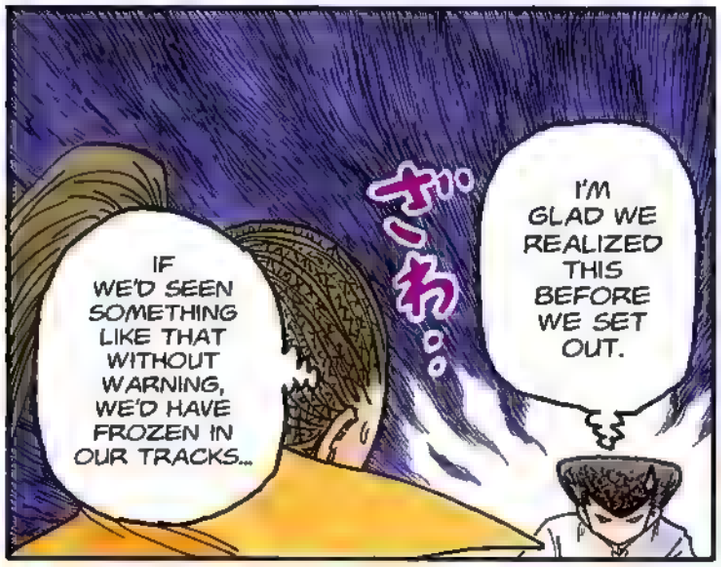


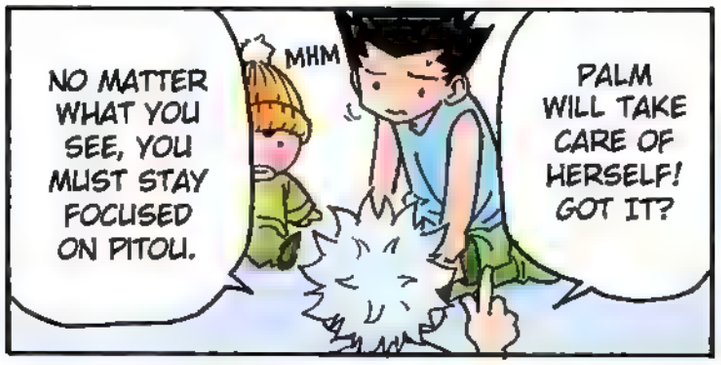


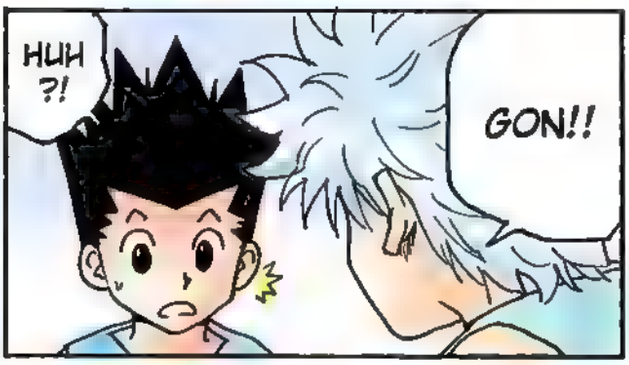


AND THE KING ...?!!

PALM...

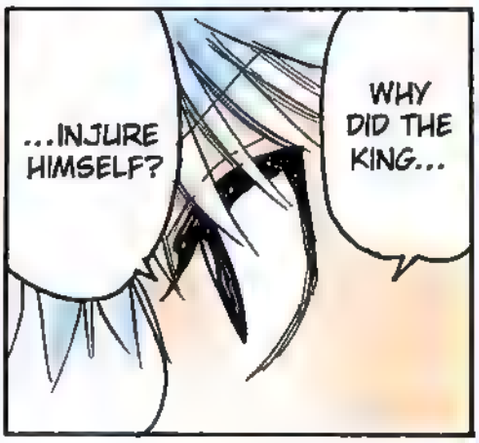






THIS THIRD PARTY IS MAKING ME UNEASY...!

I HAVE A FEELING... THAT...



YOU SAID THAT THERE COULD BE OTHER EXCEPTIONS.

YOU KNOW YOU'RE CONTRA-DICTING YOURSELF, RIGHT?

BUT YOU AGREED THAT THERE WAS NO OTHER LOGICAL EXPLANATION.

YEAH.

HOLD ON, THAT WAS JUST A THEORY OF YOURS, WASN'T IT?

BUT SOMETHING DOESN'T FEEL RIGHT.

I UNDER-STAND THAT.

FOLLOWING THAT LOGIC, PITOU COULD STOPPED USING "EN" FOR OTHER UNEXPECTED REASONS.

YEAH.

...

IS THIS SOMETHING REALLY WORTH THINKING ABOUT RIGHT NOW?

WITH 3 MINUTES LEFT TO GO...

WHEN WOULD YOU TRY TO HURT YOURSELF?

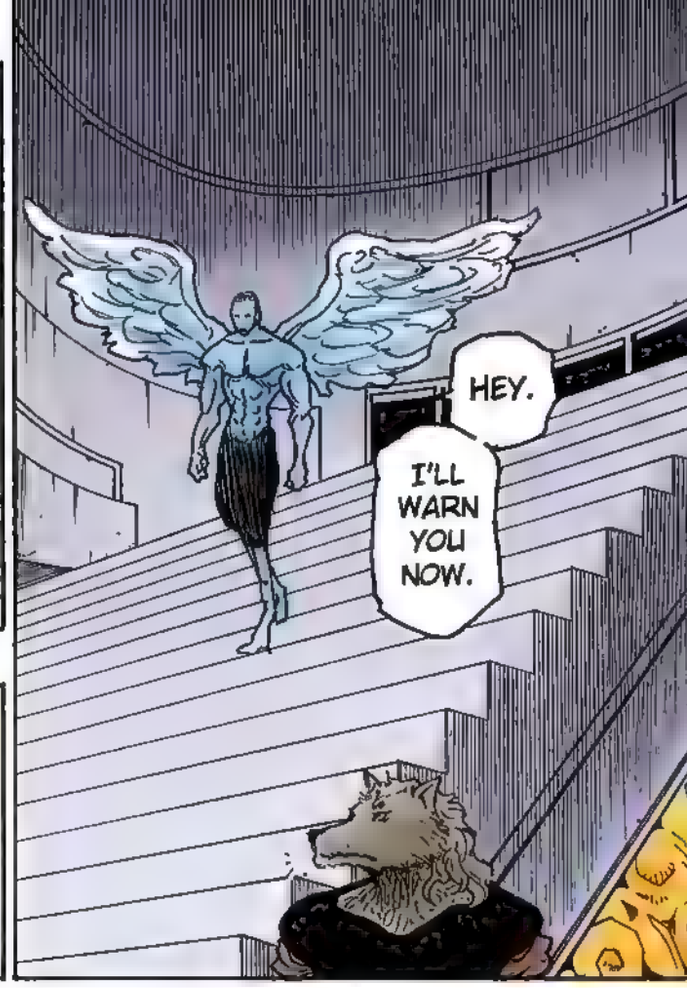
ALL RIGHT... THINK ABOUT IT.

...YOU COULDN'T FORGIVE YOURSELF.

WHEN ...

THE ROUTE HE TOOK...
?
WENT LIKE THIS ...!
TARAGETTER
THE RAIN WASHED AWAY THE TRAIL.
TSK.
BUT INSTEAD OF GOING UPSTAIRS, HE LEFT...
THE INTRUDER HID HERE TO CHECK THE SECOND FLOOR.
NO... MAYBE HE USED SOME KIND OF ABILITY...
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN THAT MADE HIM TURN BACK...? OR DID HE ACCOMPLISH HIS OBJECTIVE?

LET EVERYONE ELSE IN THE PALACE KNOW.
IF ANY OF YOU GO TO THE SECOND FLOOR, THE KING WILL KILL YOU.

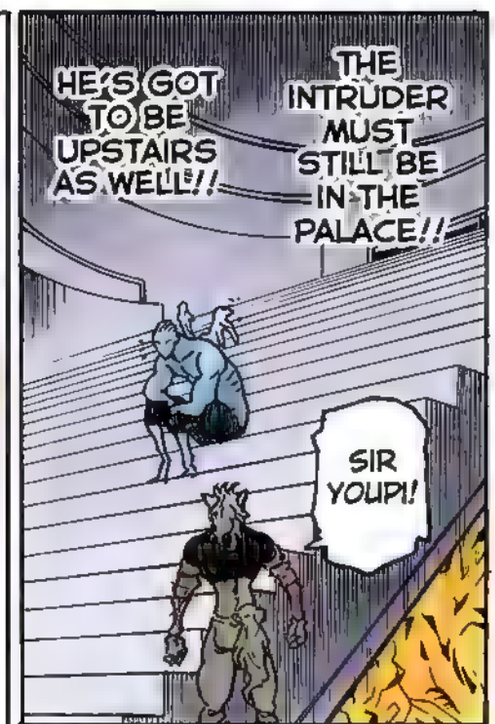

HEY.
I'LL WARN YOU NOW.

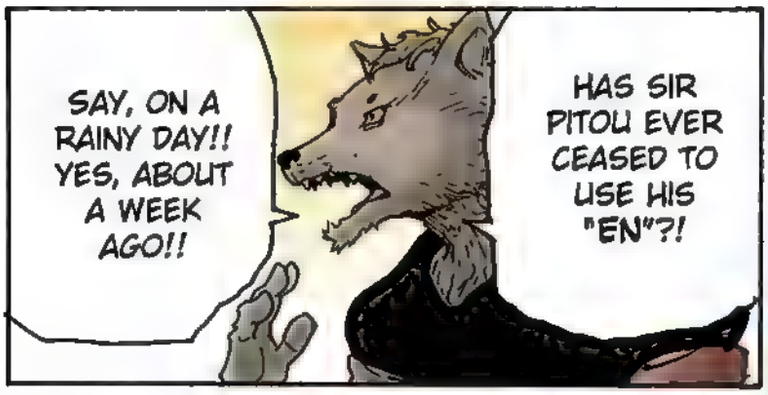
YES, SIR.

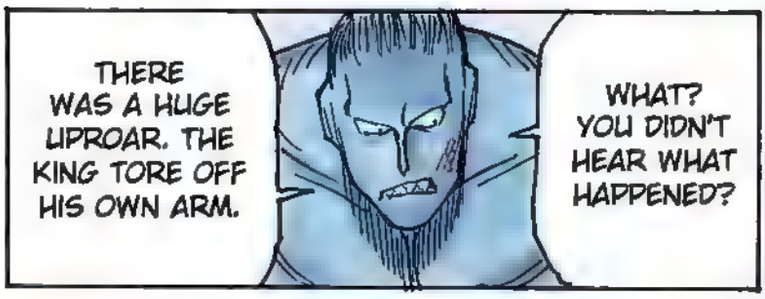
THE SHOES AND SCENT COULD'VE BEEN LEFT THERE TO MISLEAD US!! HE COULD HAVE FLOWN UP TO THE SECOND FLOOR...!!
WINGS!! WHAT IF THE INTRUDER HAS THE ABILITY TO FLY?

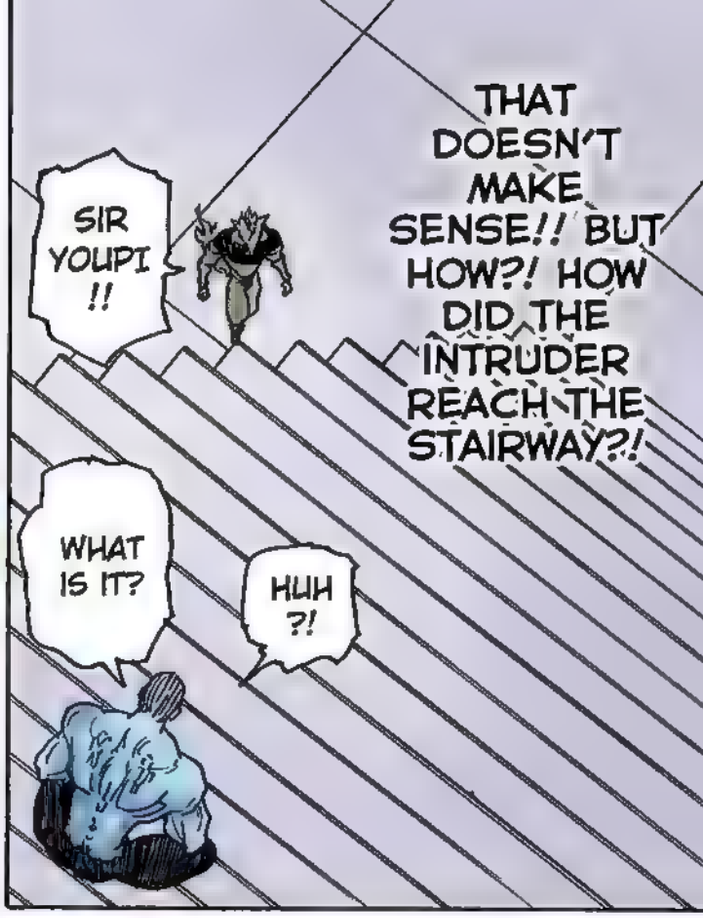
AH...
SORRY, NEVER-MIND.
?
PITOU IS MONITORING THE PALACE WITH "EN"... IF THEY'D GONE TO THE 2ND FLOOR, THEY WOULD HAVE BEEN CAUGHT!!

NO... WAIT...

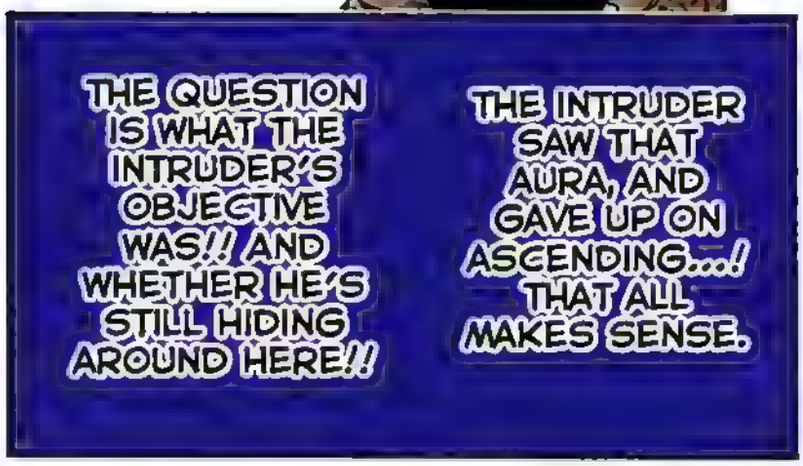

HE'S GOT TO BE UPSTAIRS AS WELL!!
THE INTRUDER MUST STILL BE IN THE PALACE!!
SIR YOUPI!

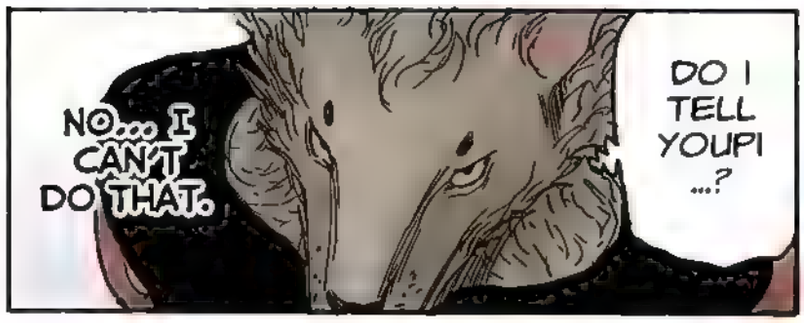

SAY, ON A RAINY DAY!! YES, ABOUT A WEEK AGO!!
HAS SIR PITOU EVER CEASED TO USE HIS "EN"?!


THERE WAS A HUGE UPROAR. THE KING TORE OFF HIS OWN ARM.
WHAT? YOU DIDN'T HEAR WHAT HAPPENED?


SIR YOUPI !!
THAT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE!! BUT HOW?! HOW DID THE INTRUDER REACH THE STAIRWAY?!
WHAT IS IT?
HUH ?!

HOW WIDE WAS SIR POUF'S "EN"?
PITOU HAD TO HEAL THE KING, SO POUF WAS USING HIS "EN" INSTEAD.


THE QUESTION IS WHAT THE INTRUDER'S OBJECTIVE WAS!! AND WHETHER HE'S STILL HIDING AROUND HERE!!
THE INTRUDER SAW THAT AURA, AND GAVE UP ON ASCENDING...! THAT ALL MAKES SENSE.


NO... I CAN'T DO THAT.
DO I TELL YOUPI ...?

NO, YOU'RE WRONG...! I'D GUESS THAT POUF'S "EN" ONLY REACHED AS FAR AS THE STAIRWAY!!
HOW SHOULD I KNOW? WOULDN'T IT BE JUST AS LARGE AS PITOU'S?

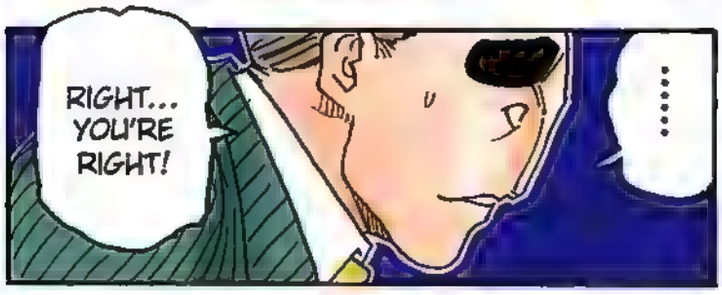
I SHOULD REPORT THIS TO PITOU OR POUF MYSELF. POUF WOULD BE THE BEST CHOICE.
YAWN...
IF THIS DIMWIT TELLS THE OTHER TWO, I BET HE WON'T EVEN MENTION MY NAME.
I WON'T BE ABLE TO GET MUCH CREDIT FOR IT.
OTHERWISE, MY REPORT WOULD BE "THAT THE INTRUDER SOMEHOW MADE IT INSIDE THE PALACE, BUT TURNED AND RAN WHEN HE FELT THE "EN" FROM POUF."
I NEED TO DETERMINE WHAT THE INTRUDER'S OBJECTIVE WAS.
AND IF POSSIBLE, I SHOULD FIGURE OUT THE ANSWER TO MY TWO QUESTIONS !!
BUT IF I TELL THE ROYAL GUARDS ABOUT MY SUSPICIONS AND THE INTRUDER IS NEVER FOUND, IT WOULD ONLY WASTE THEIR TIME AND DAMAGE MY OWN CREDIBILITY...
I CAN MAKE UP AN OBJECTIVE, BUT IF THE INTRUDER IS CAPTURED, THEY'LL FIND OUT I LIED.
...A GREAT IDEA!!
NOW I HAVE...
THAT NOISE...!! IT'S BIZEFF'S PHONE AGAIN!!
ARGH!

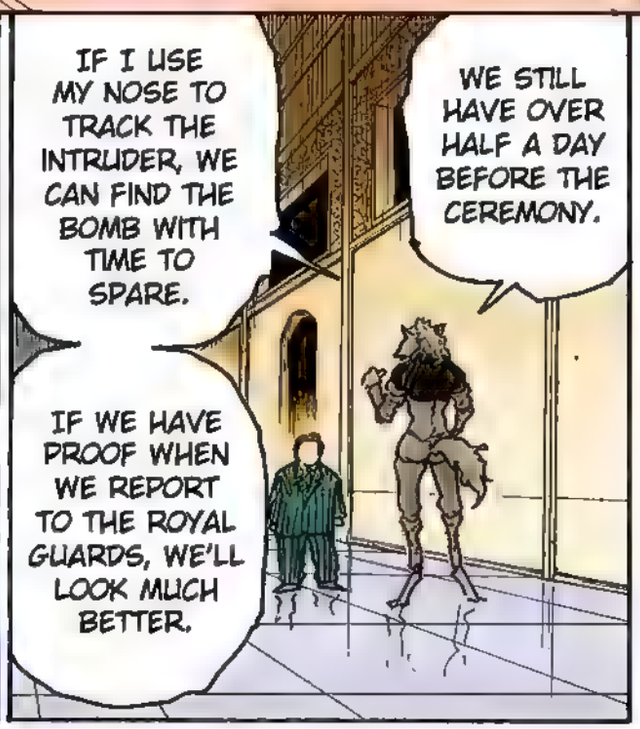
I BELIEVE THAT HE AND THE WOMAN ARE WORKING TOGETHER!! THEY PROBABLY TELEPORTED TOGETHER.
ACCORDING TO LEOL, THAT INTRUDER HAS THE ABILITY TO TELEPORT.
RRG...
THEY TOOK AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLOIT IT.
...SO THE INTRUDER CAPTURED ONE OF MY MEN.
JUST DON'T TELL ANYONE ABOUT THE WOMEN.
I'LL JUST MAKE SURE LEOL PLAYS ALONG WITH THE STORY.
WHAT IS IT?
HOWEVER, I'VE DISCOVERED THEIR OBJECTIVE!
YES, THAT'S THE QUESTION.
DAMN... BUT WHY WOULD THEY DO THAT...
IT'S A LIE. (SNICKER)
TO BLOW UP THE PALACE!!

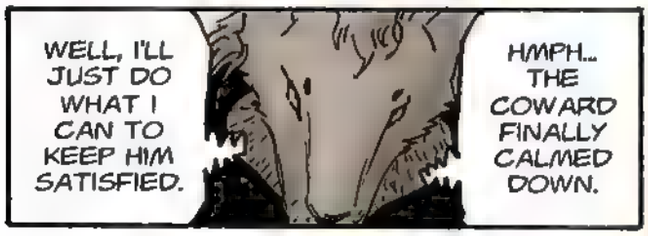
WE CAN TELL THEM AFTER WE'VE FOUND THE BOMB.
DON'T BE IN SUCH A RUSH.
!?
A PIECE OF WIRING THAT'S USED FOR BOMBS.
AS I LOOKED FOR THE WOMAN, I FOUND THIS.
WHAT ...
WAIT !!
WE HAVE TO TELL THE ROYAL GUARDS ...
WHO, ME?!
WHA-
"IF THEY WANT TO BLOW UP THE PALACE, THEY'LL WAIT UNTIL THEY'RE SURE THE KING IS HERE."
CALM DOWN, AND CONSIDER THIS FROM THEIR PERS-PECTIVE...
WHAT IF THE PALACE BLOWS UP WHILE WE'RE STILL SEARCHING FOR IT?!
BUT THERE'S NO TIME FOR THAT!
WHEN ALL THE CITIZENS HAVE ASSEMBLED, RIGHT BEFORE THE CEREMONY!
AND WHEN'S THAT?
I'VE STOOD AT THE FORMER SUPREME LEADER'S SIDE FOR MANY OF THESE CELEBRATIONS...
TRUE ...
JUST IMAGINE IT, "THE KING WOULD NOT ALLOW A DOUBLE TO STEAL THAT GRATIFICATION FROM HIM." IT'S ONLY LOGICAL TO ASSUME THE ENEMY REACHED THE SAME CONCLUSION.
THERE WILL BE 5 MILLION HUMANS, WHAT A SIGHT THAT WILL BE!!

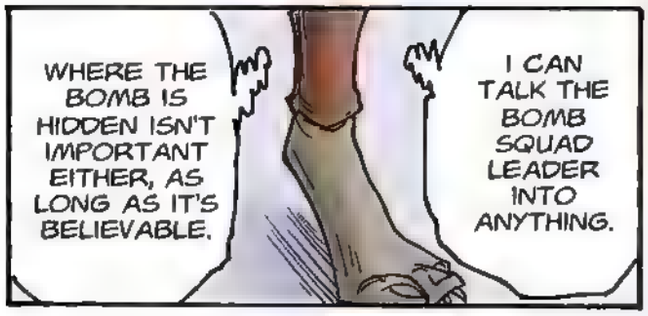
...ECSTASY! EVEN BEYOND...
THE EXPERIENCE BRINGS INDESCRIBABLE...
...INTERCOURSE!!!

IF WE SAVE THE KING'S LIFE, THEY'LL BE QUITE GRATEFUL.
SIR POUF HAS ALWAYS LOOKED DOWN ON YOU. BUT...


RIGHT... YOU'RE RIGHT!
.....

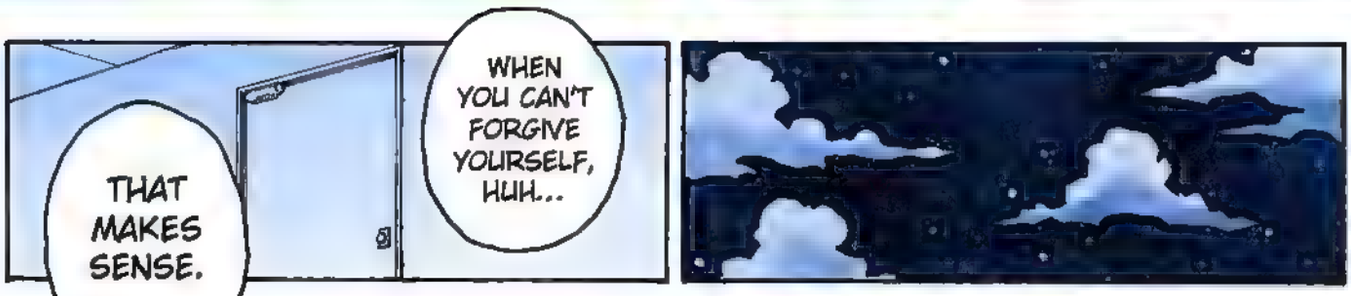

IF I USE MY NOSE TO TRACK THE INTRUDER, WE CAN FIND THE BOMB WITH TIME TO SPARE.
WE STILL HAVE OVER HALF A DAY BEFORE THE CEREMONY.
IF WE HAVE PROOF WHEN WE REPORT TO THE ROYAL GUARDS, WE'LL LOOK MUCH BETTER.

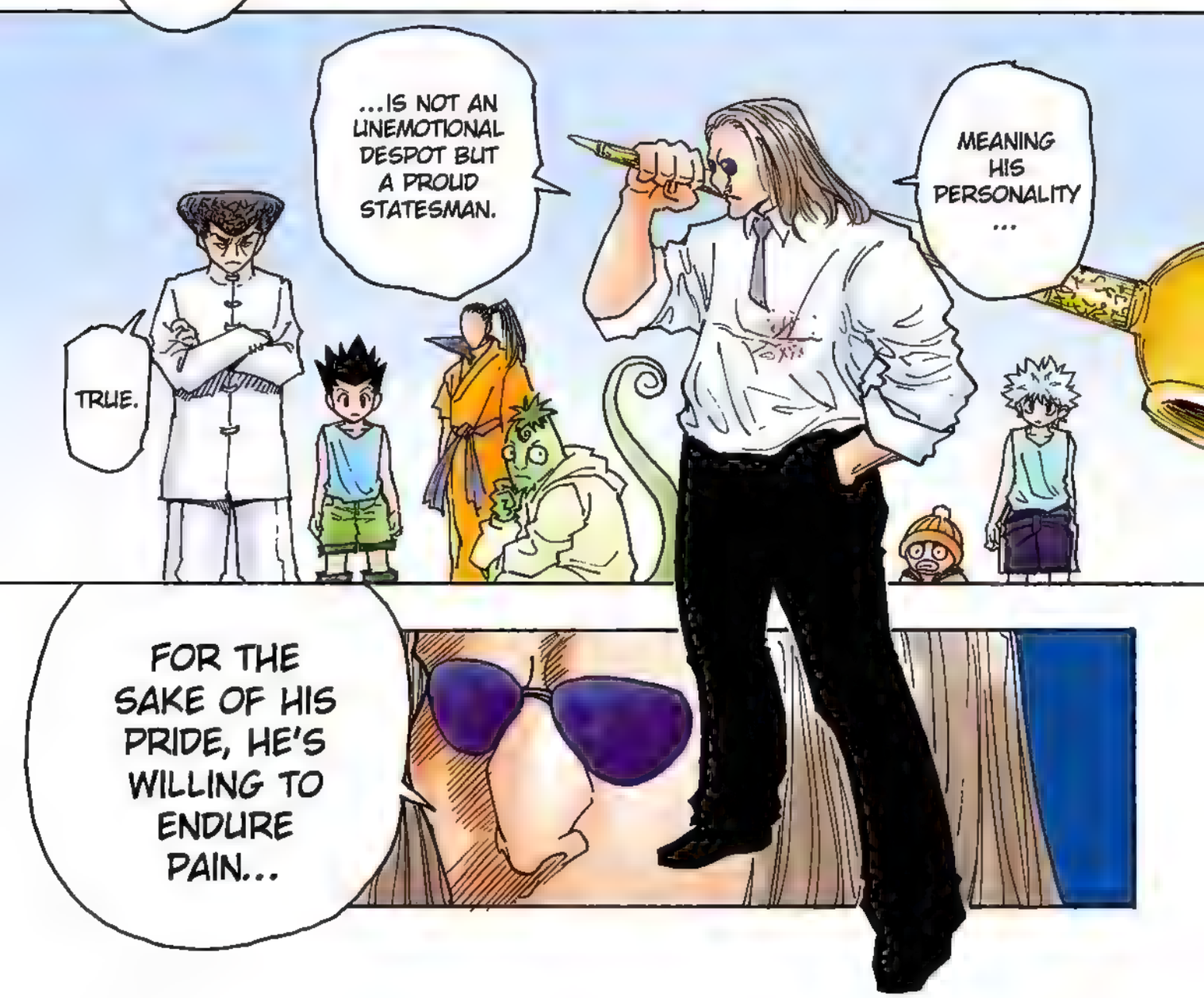

WELL, I'LL JUST DO WHAT I CAN TO KEEP HIM SATISFIED.
HMPH... THE COWARD FINALLY CALMED DOWN.

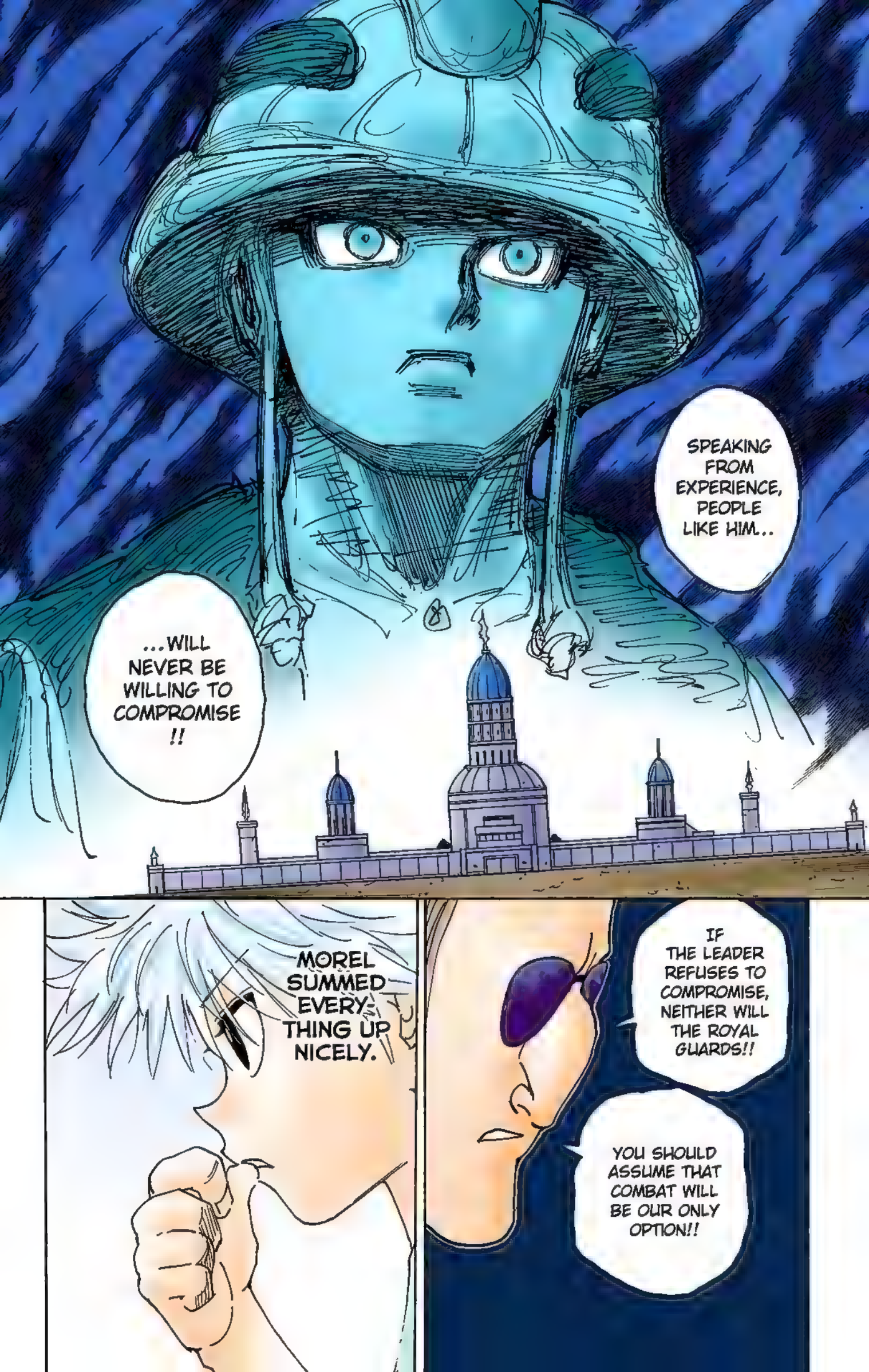

WHERE THE BOMB IS HIDDEN ISN'T IMPORTANT EITHER, AS LONG AS IT'S BELIEVABLE.
I CAN TALK THE BOMB SQUAD LEADER INTO ANYTHING.

YOU CAN LEAVE IT TO ME.
TRY TO FIND SOMEONE WHO CAN DISARM THE BOMB.
AS SOON AS I FIND THE BOMB, I'LL CONTACT YOU. IT SHOULDN'T TAKE MORE THAN ABOUT TWO OR THREE HOURS.
YOU CAN EXPECT A SUBSTANTIAL REWARD FOR THIS.

I'M GETTING CLOSER... TO BECOMING THE KING BEHIND THE SCENES...!!
MY NOSE IS THE ONLY WAY TO FIND THE INTRUDER!! THERE'S NO WAY THEY'LL VERIFY THE TRUTH...!!


THAT MAKES SENSE.
WHEN YOU CAN'T FORGIVE YOURSELF, HUH...


TRUE.
...IS NOT AN UNEMOTIONAL DESPOT BUT A PROUD STATESMAN.
MEANING HIS PERSONALITY ...
FOR THE SAKE OF HIS PRIDE, HE'S WILLING TO ENDURE PAIN...


SPEAKING FROM EXPERIENCE, PEOPLE LIKE HIM..
...WILL NEVER BE WILLING TO COMPROMISE !!
MOREL SUMMED EVERY-THING UP NICELY.
IF THE LEADER REFUSES TO COMPROMISE, NEITHER WILL THE ROYAL GUARDS!!
YOU SHOULD ASSUME THAT COMBAT WILL BE OUR ONLY OPTION!!

THE KING'S SELF-INJURY AND THE EXISTENCE OF A THIRD PARTY.

BUT SOMETHING'S WRONG...

...THAT THE ANSWER HAS THE POTENTIAL TO COMPLETELY RUIN OUR ENTIRE PLAN...

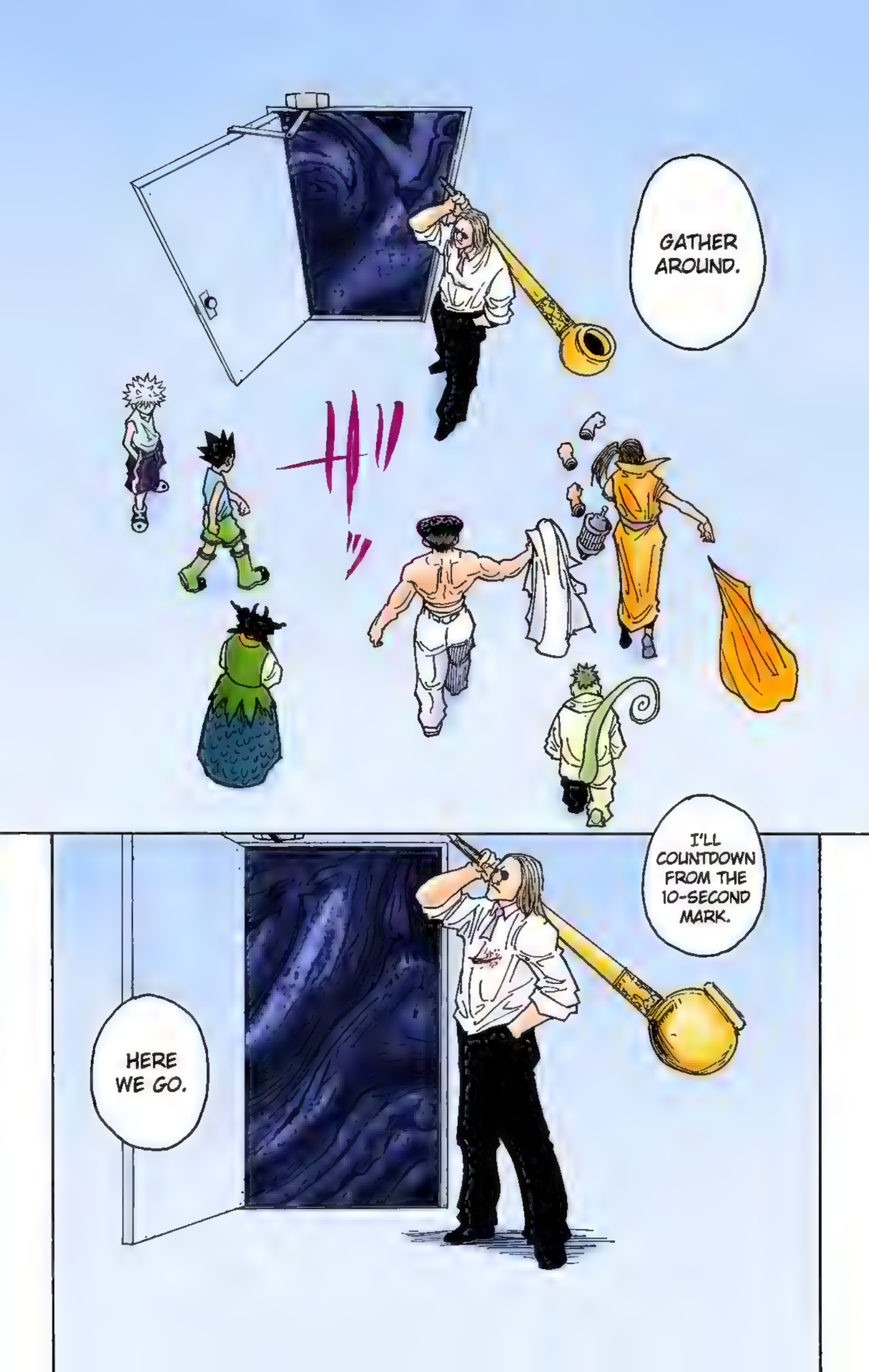
WE STILL HAVEN'T CORRECTLY DEDUCED WHAT HAPPENED... I HAVE A FEELING...

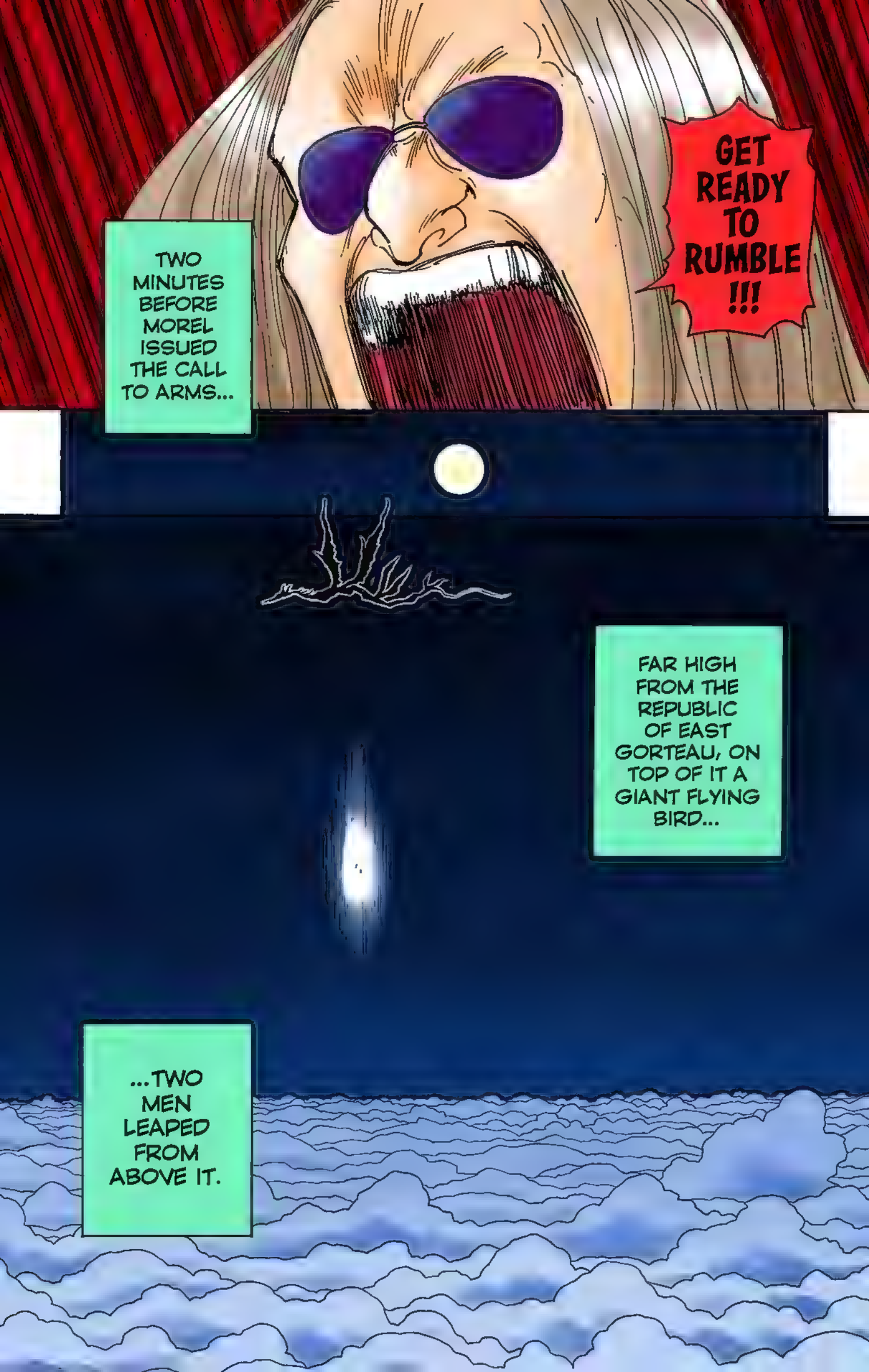
WERE OUT OF TIME.

DAMN IT.

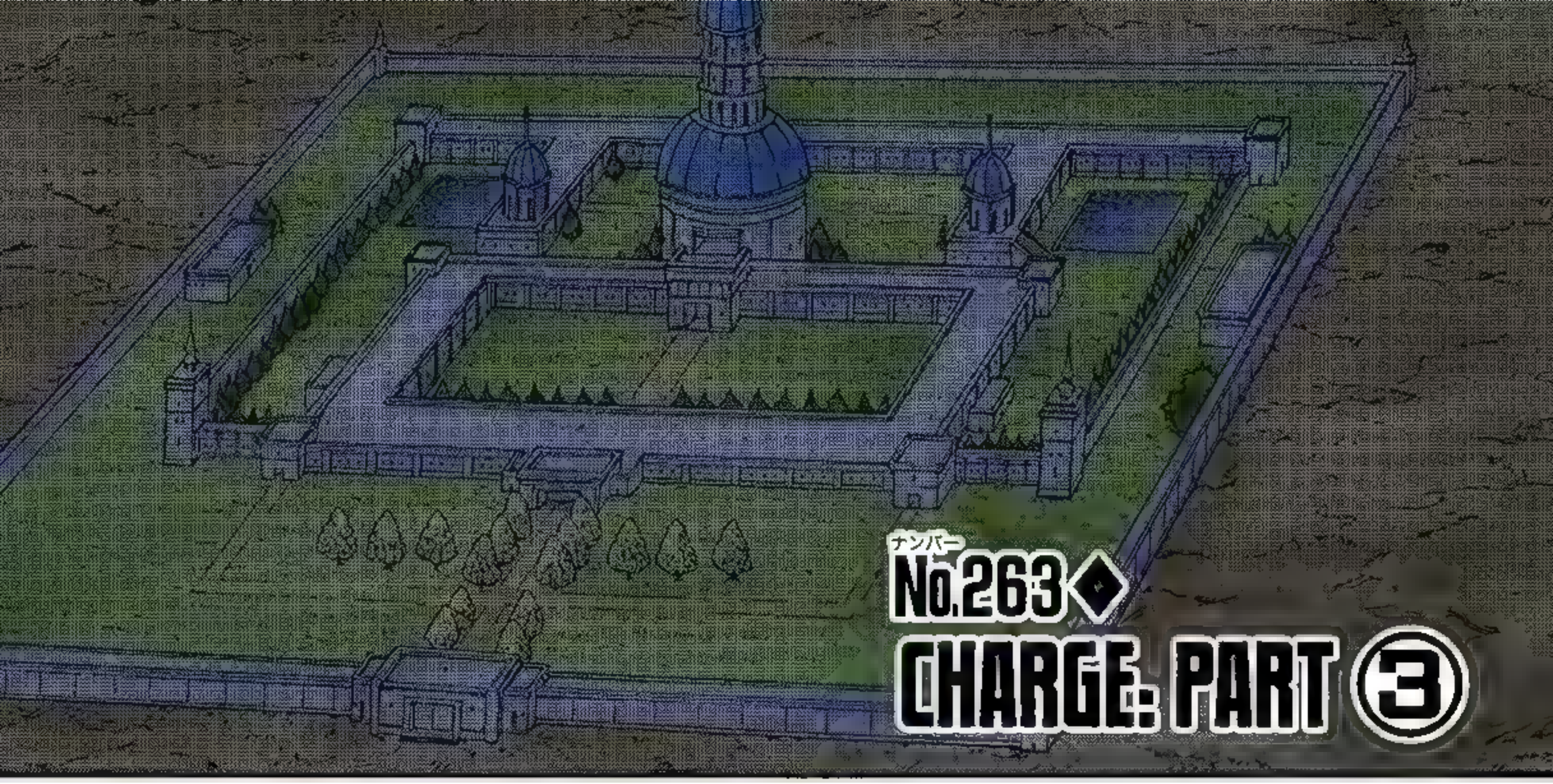
IT'S TIME.

ONE MINUTE TO GO.


GATHER AROUND.
I'LL COUNTDOWN FROM THE 10-SECOND MARK.
HERE WE GO.


GET READY TO RUMBLE !!!
TWO MINUTES BEFORE MOREL ISSUED THE CALL TO ARMS...
FAR HIGH FROM THE REPUBLIC OF EAST GORTEAU, ON TOP OF IT A GIANT FLYING BIRD...
...TWO MEN LEAPED FROM ABOVE IT.

DIGITAL
SHUEISHA JUMP COMICS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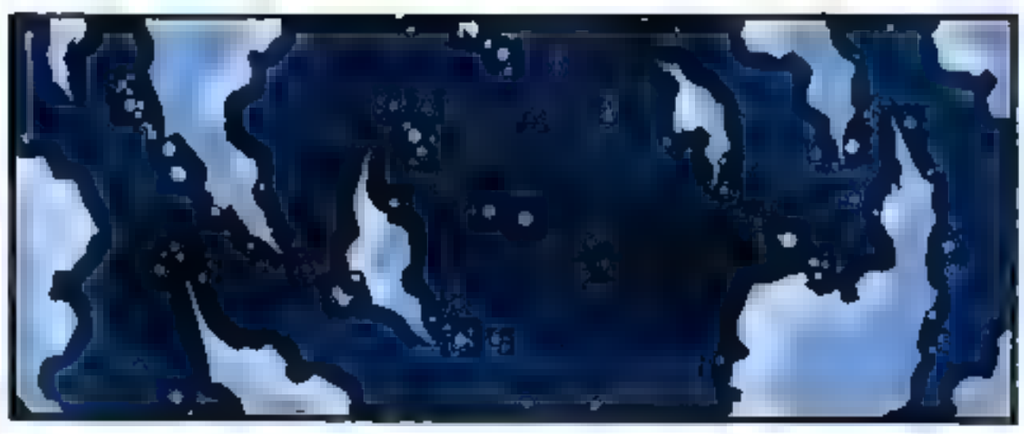
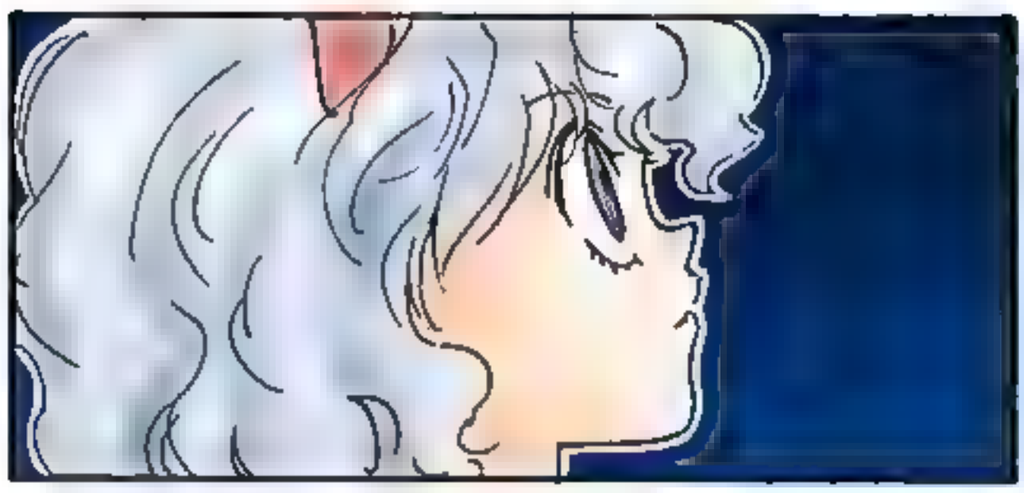
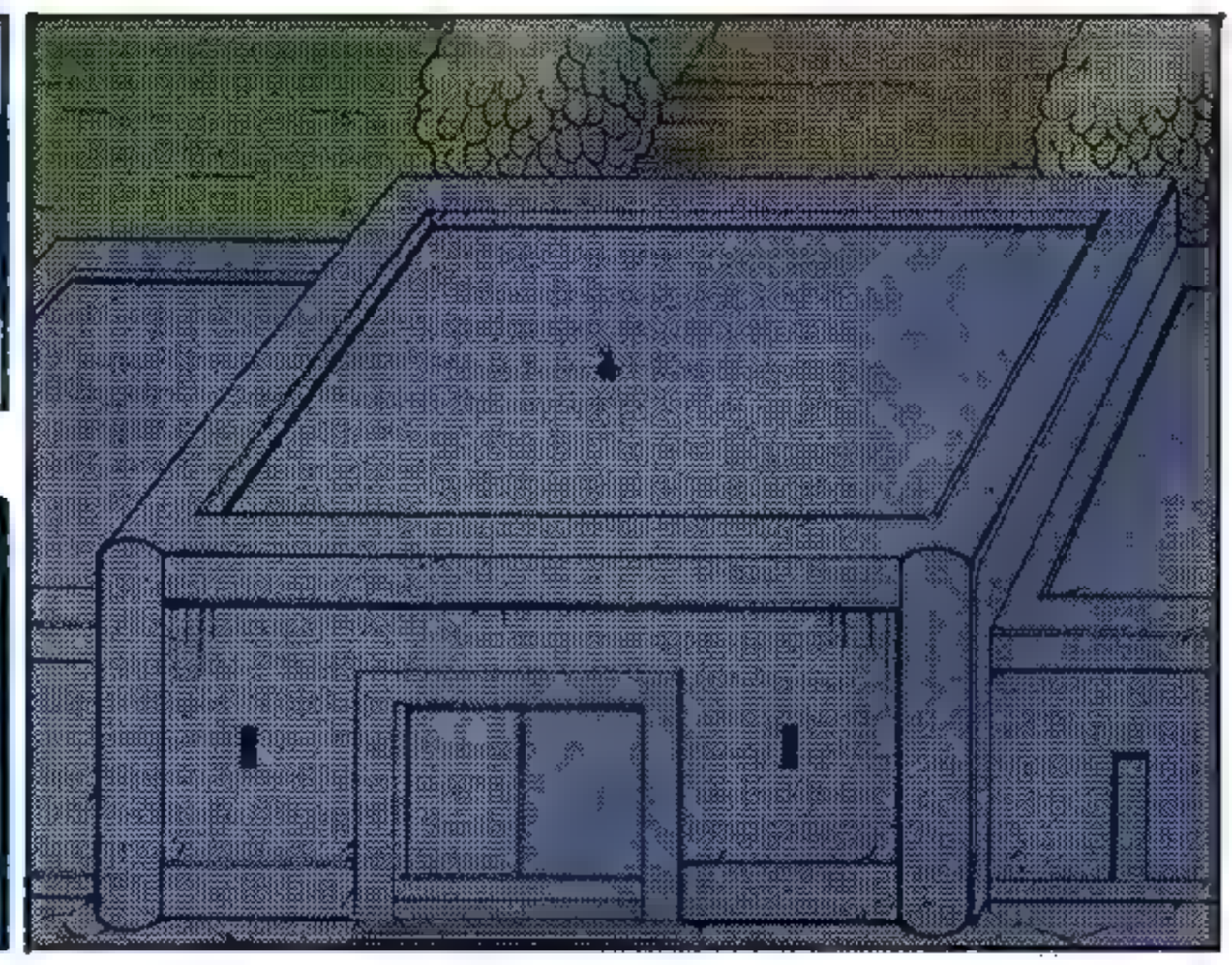
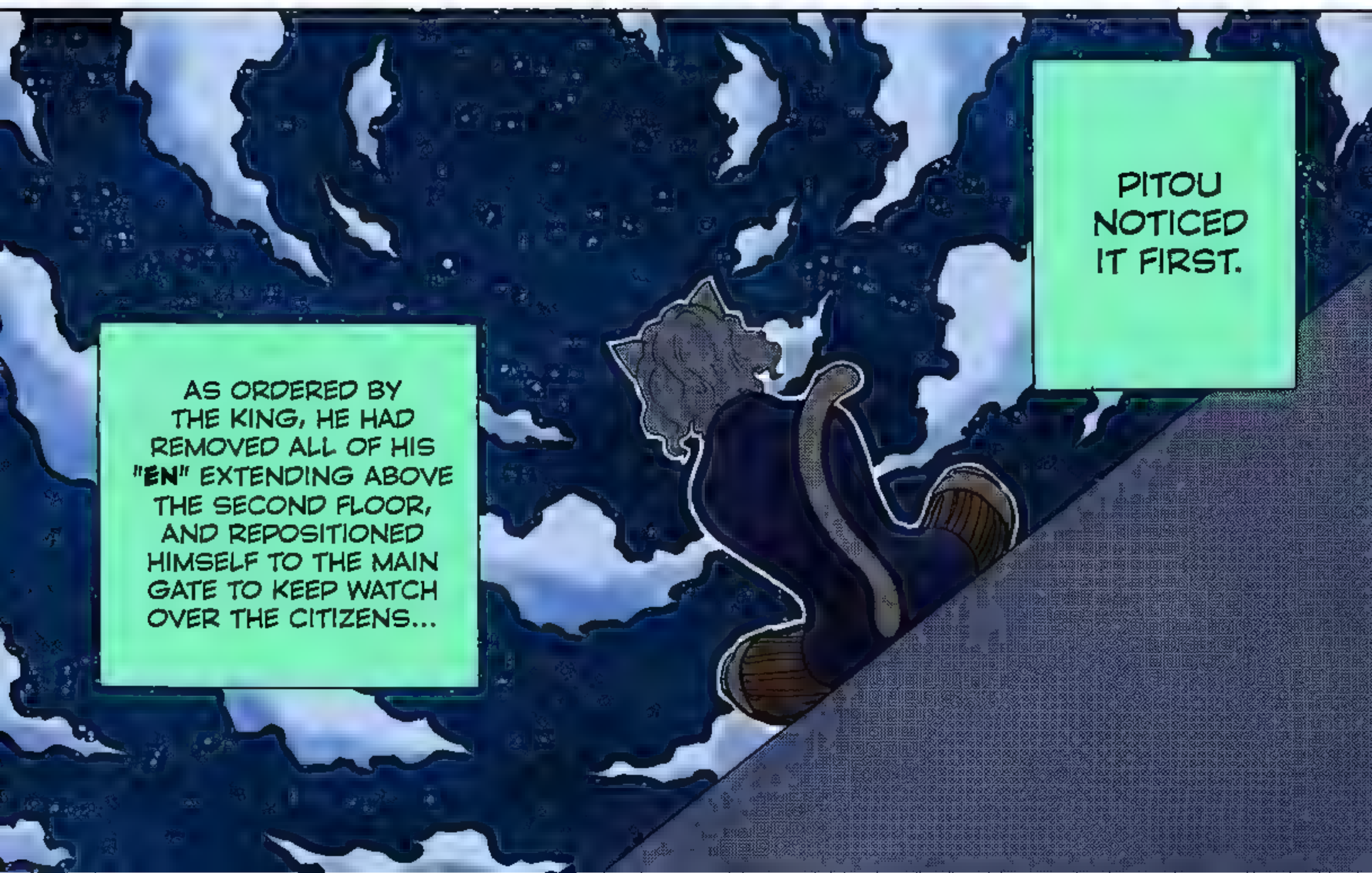
No.263
CHARGE: PART 3





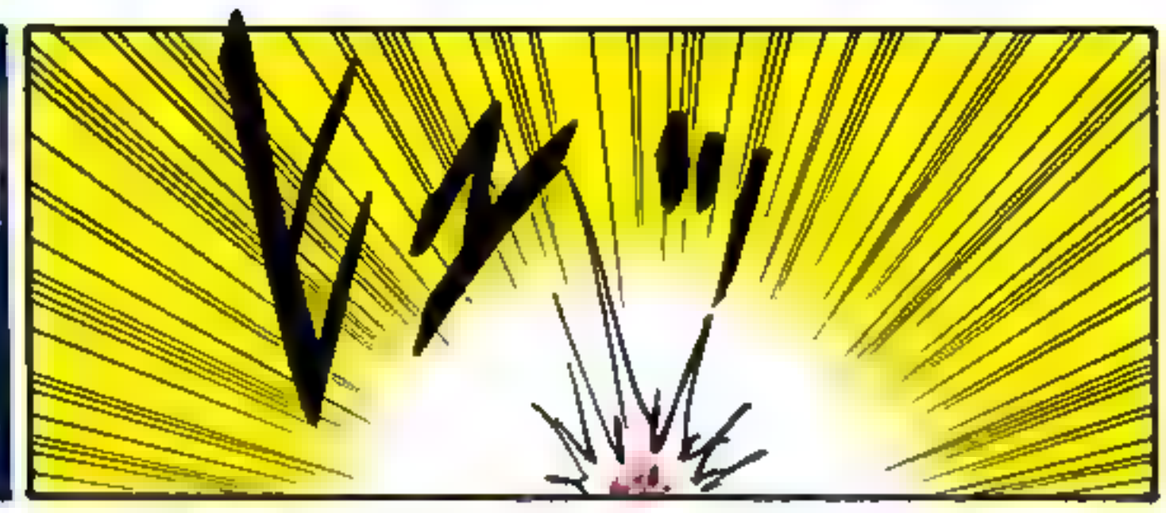



AS ORDERED BY THE KING, HE HAD REMOVED ALL OF HIS "EN" EXTENDING ABOVE THE SECOND FLOOR, AND REPOSITIONED HIMSELF TO THE MAIN GATE TO KEEP WATCH OVER THE CITIZENS...
PITOU NOTICED IT FIRST.

SOME-THING IS COMING.

THE ONLY REASON PITOU DECIDED TO LOOK UP AT THE SKY WAS "JUST BECAUSE." PITOU'S HUNCH WAS VAGUE.

HOWEVER, A FEW SECONDS LATER...



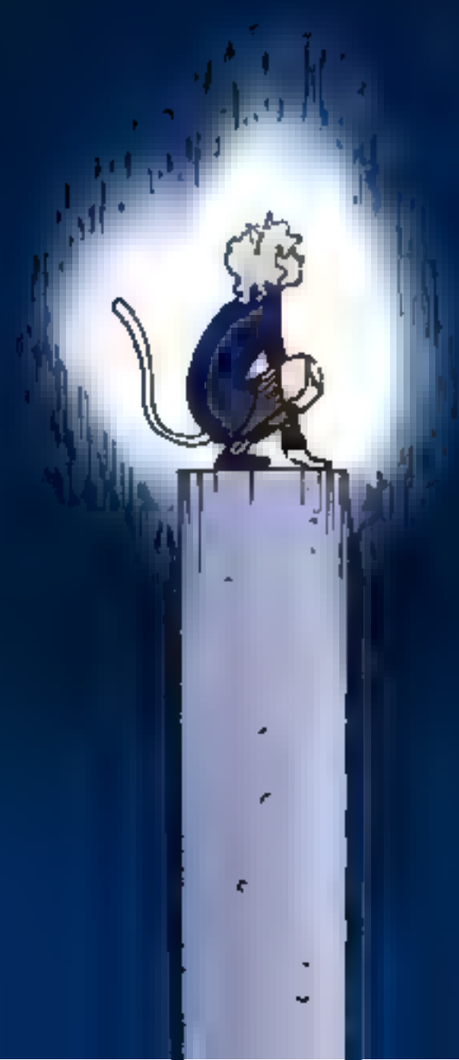
THE ENEMY!!

THE FAINTEST OF SUSPICIONS TURNED INTO CERTAINTY.

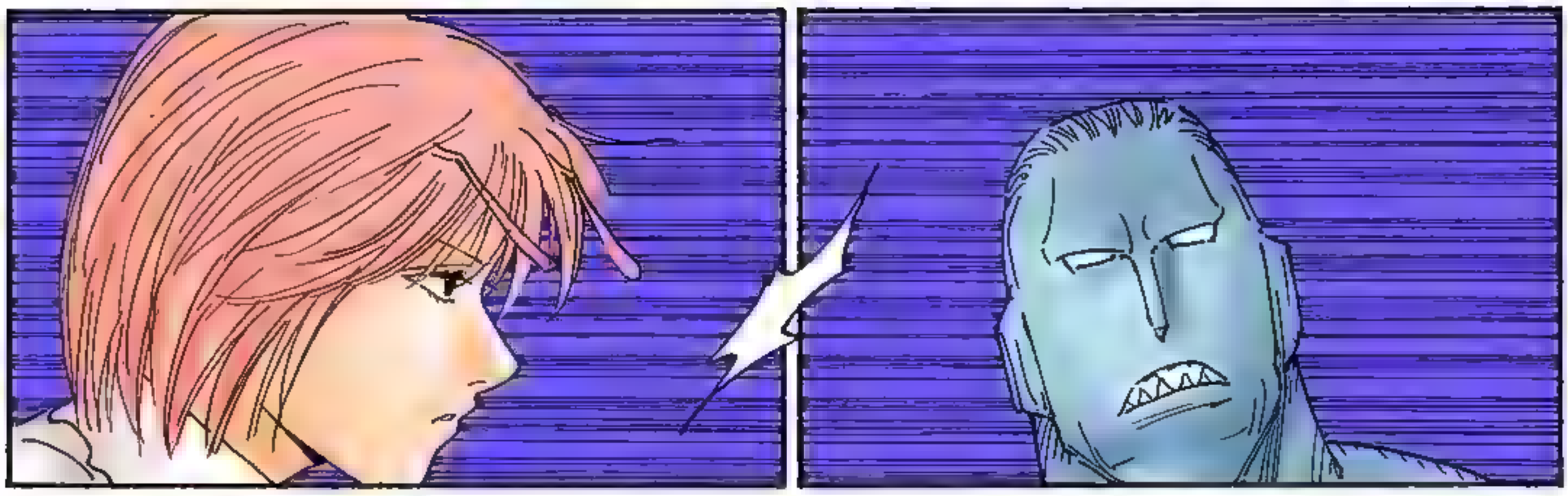
TOO HIGH FOR EVEN PITOU'S EXTRAORDINARY SENSES TO DETECT.

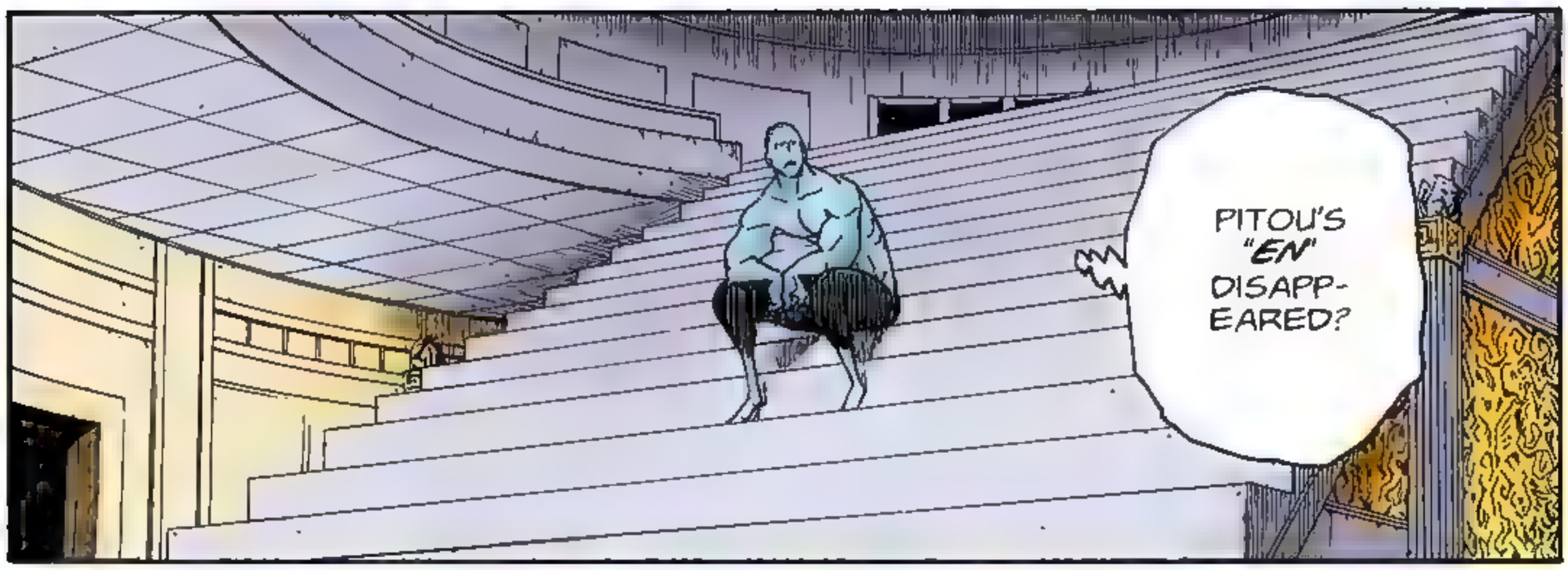
HOWEVER, THE ENEMY WAS STILL FAR OVERHEAD...

...WERE THE FERAL INSTINCTS OF HIS ANIMAL PAST.



NOW READY FOR BATTLE, PITOU'S ONLY BASIS FOR CERTAINTY...





IT'S HARD TO THINK THAT THE DESCENDING INTRUDERS' BATTLE SKILLS FAR EXCEEDED THOSE OF ANY ORDINARY WARRIOR.

IT HAD HEIGHTEN PITOU'S UNLEASHED INTUITION AT THAT MOMENT.

POUF REALIZED THAT THE DANGER APPROACHING CAME FROM ABOVE.

NOTICING PITOU'S "EN" ASCENDING TOWARDS THE SKIES...

...CAUGHT SIGHT OF WHAT IT WAS.

AT THE SAME MOMENT, TWO OF THE ROYAL GUARDS...

AT THE SAME MOMENT...
TEN SECONDS TO GO.
PHEW...
6
7
8
9

AS MOREL COUNTED DOWN TO THE ATTACK...

A DARK SHADOW FELL OVER GON'S EYES.

A QUIET, ICY ABYSS...

THAT KILLUA ALONE NOTICED AT HIS SIDE.

A DRAGON !!!

FOR AN INSTANT, THE TWO STARED UP, CAPTIVATED BY THE SHINING DRAGON.

BUT TRULY, THEIR SIGHT WAS NOT AT THE DRAGON, BUT THE FIGURES UPON ITS BACK.

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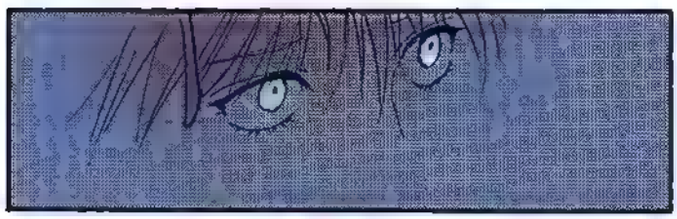

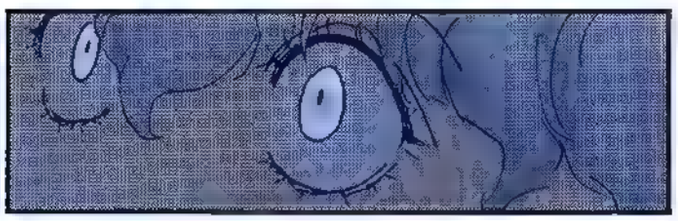

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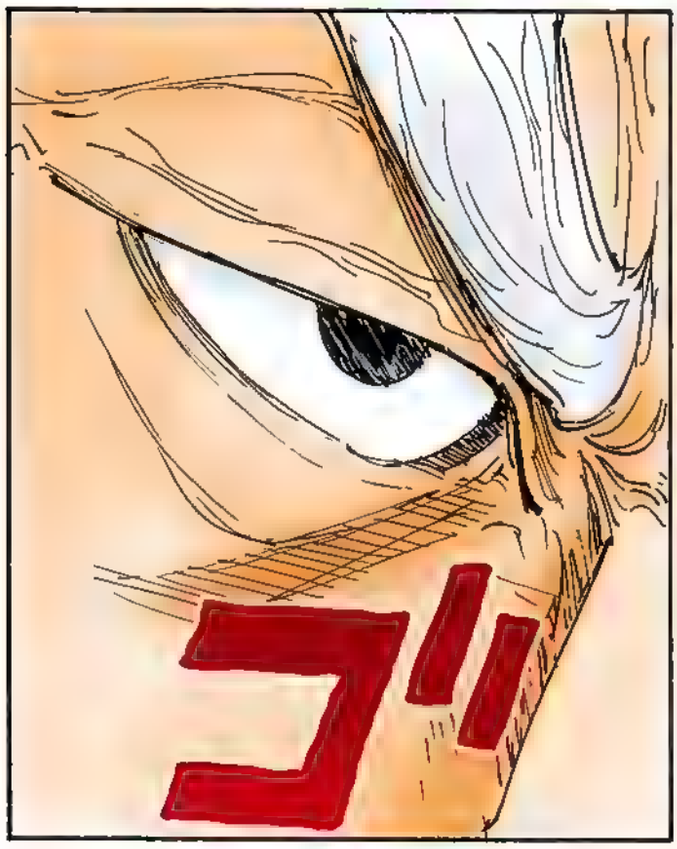
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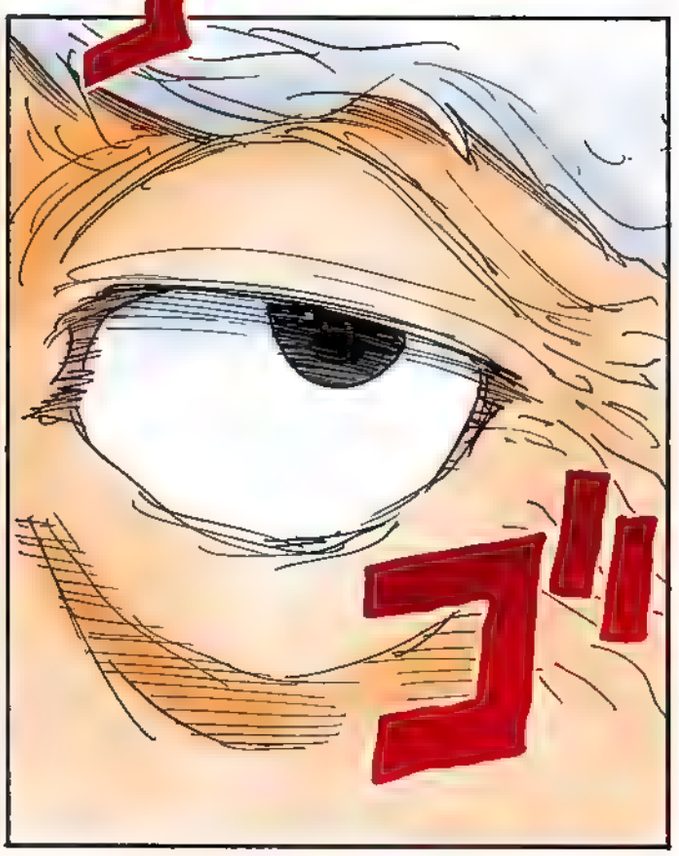
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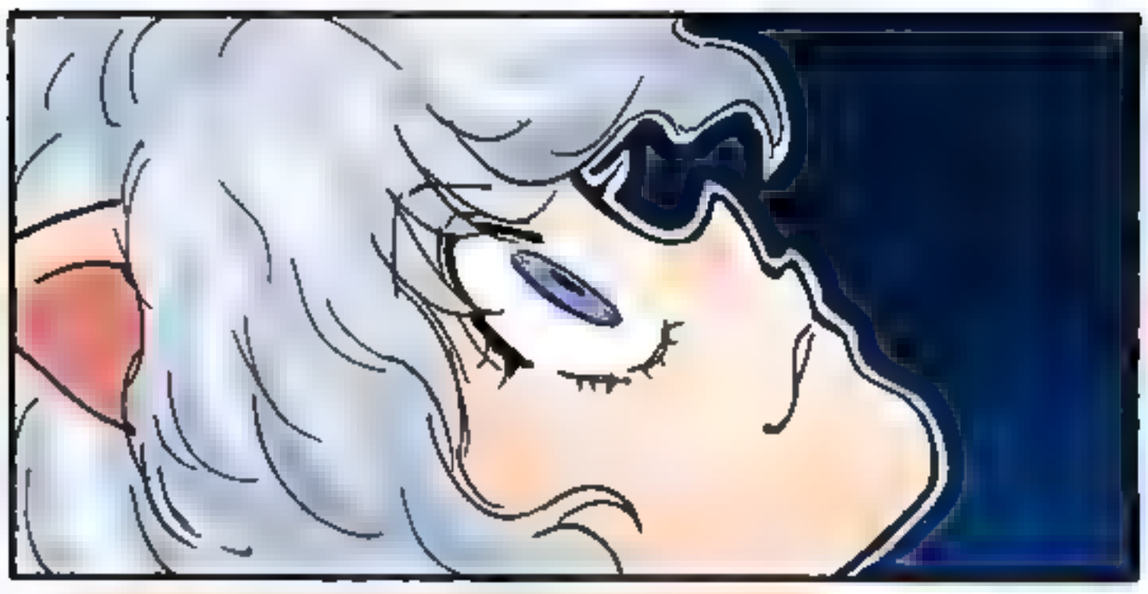
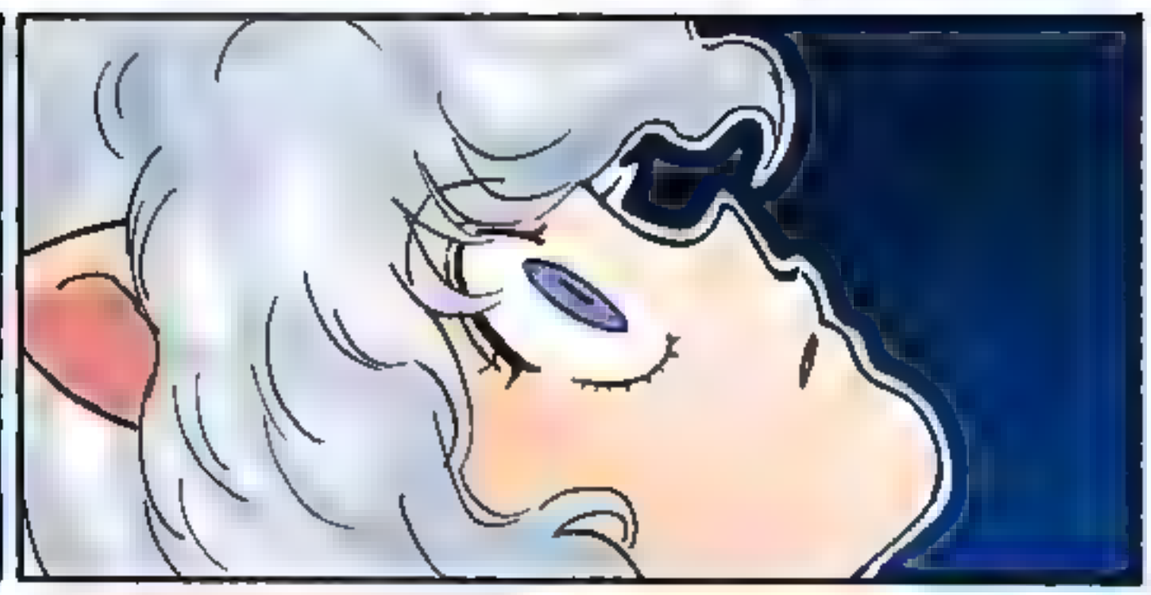
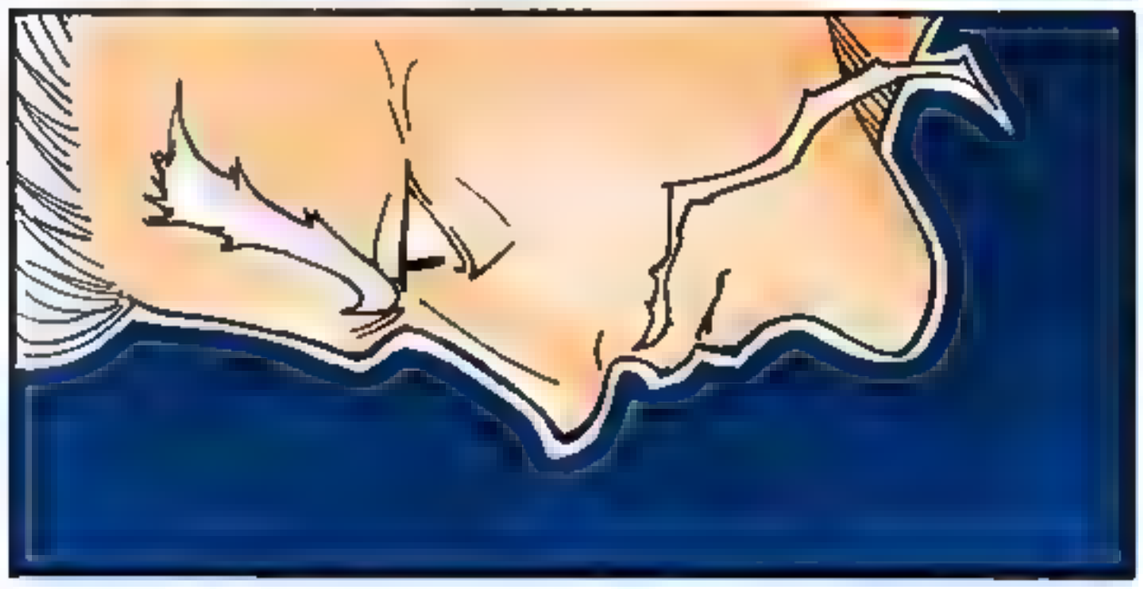
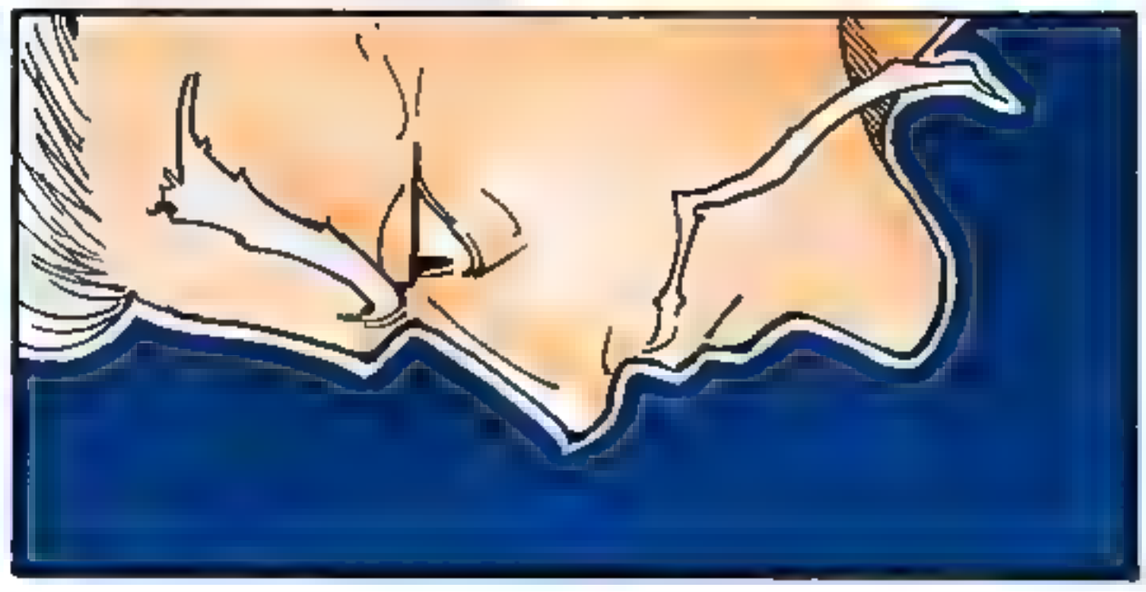
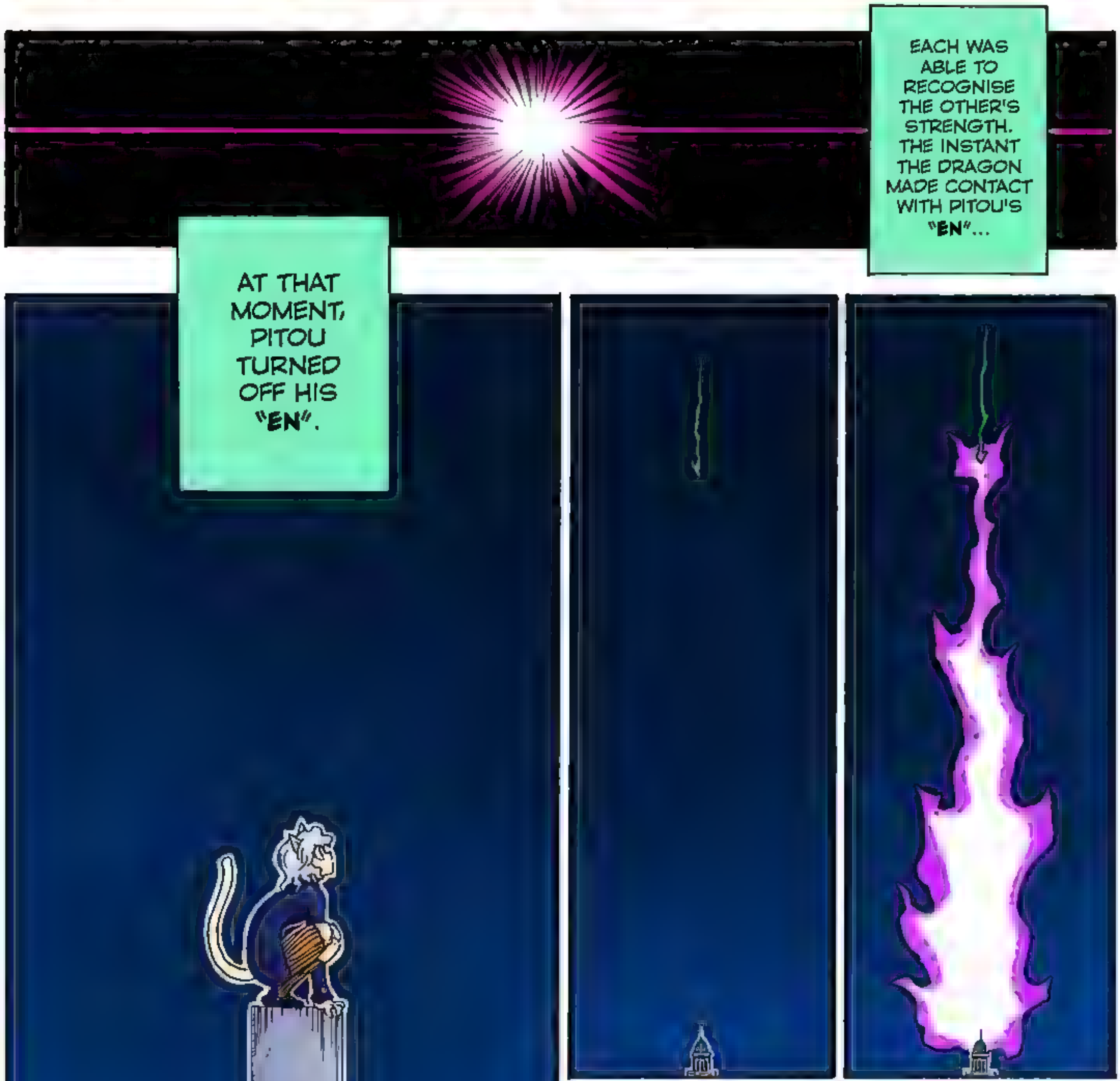
THE INSTANT THE DRAGON MADE CONTACT WITH PITOU'S "EN"...










EACH WAS ABLE TO RECOGNISE THE OTHER'S STRENGTH. THE INSTANT THE DRAGON MADE CONTACT WITH PITOU'S "EN"...
AT THAT MOMENT, PITOU TURNED OFF HIS "EN".

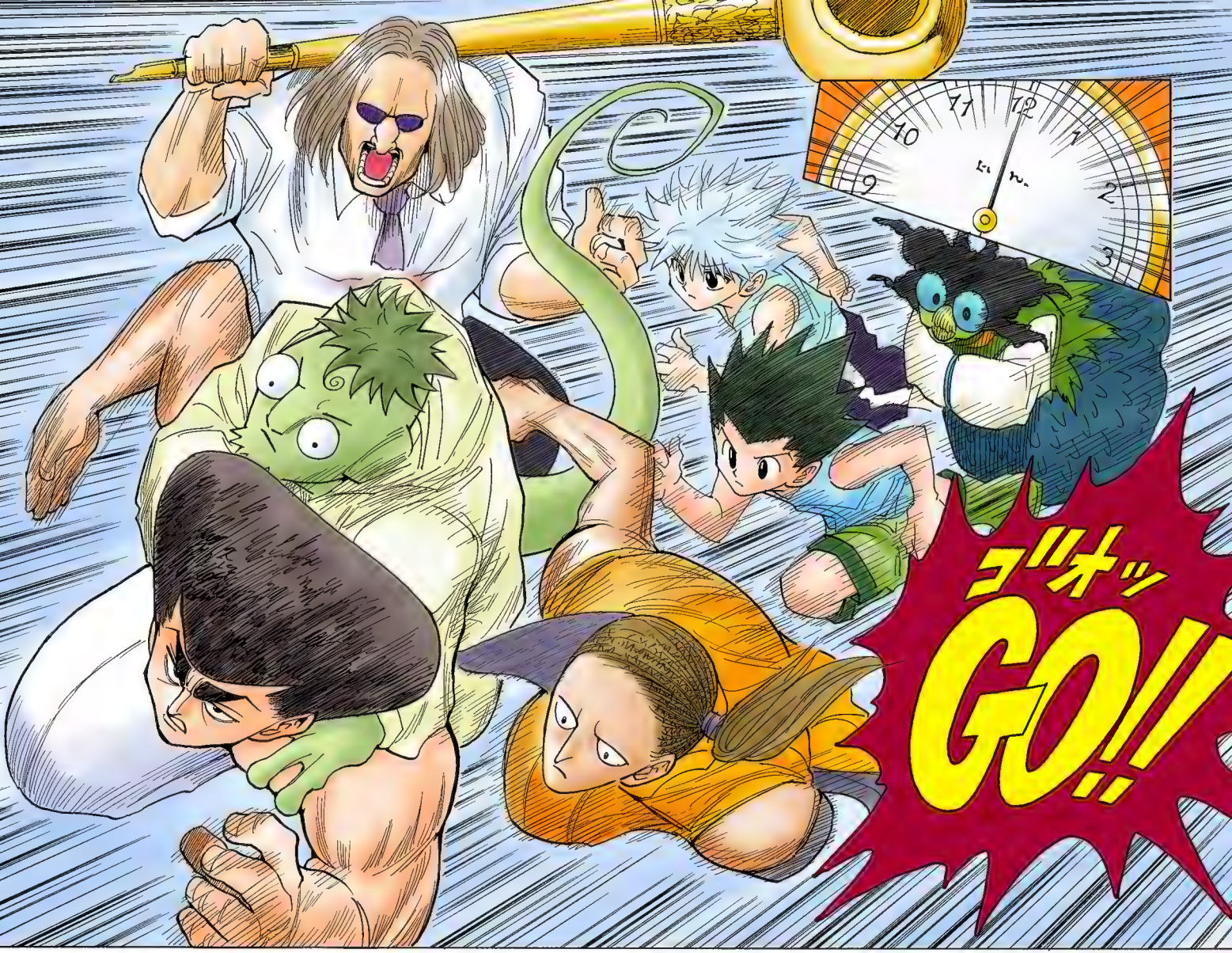
IN ORDER...

TO GO INTO FULL BATTLE MODE.

HOW-EVER...

THE DRAGON SCATTERED.

...THAT RAINED DOWN ACROSS THE ENTIRE PALACE.
IT SPREAD INTO A MULTITUDE OF SMALL DRAGONS...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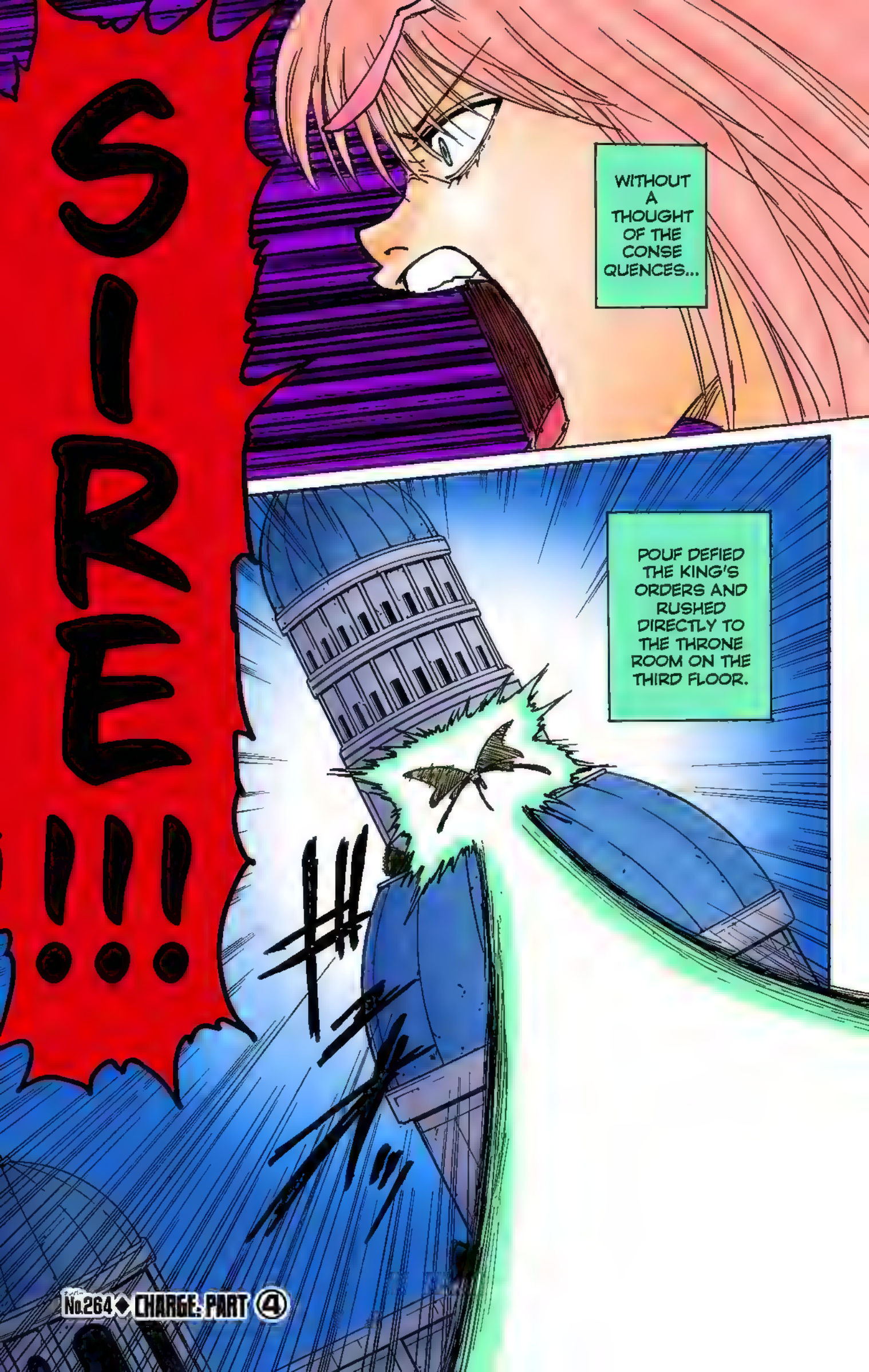
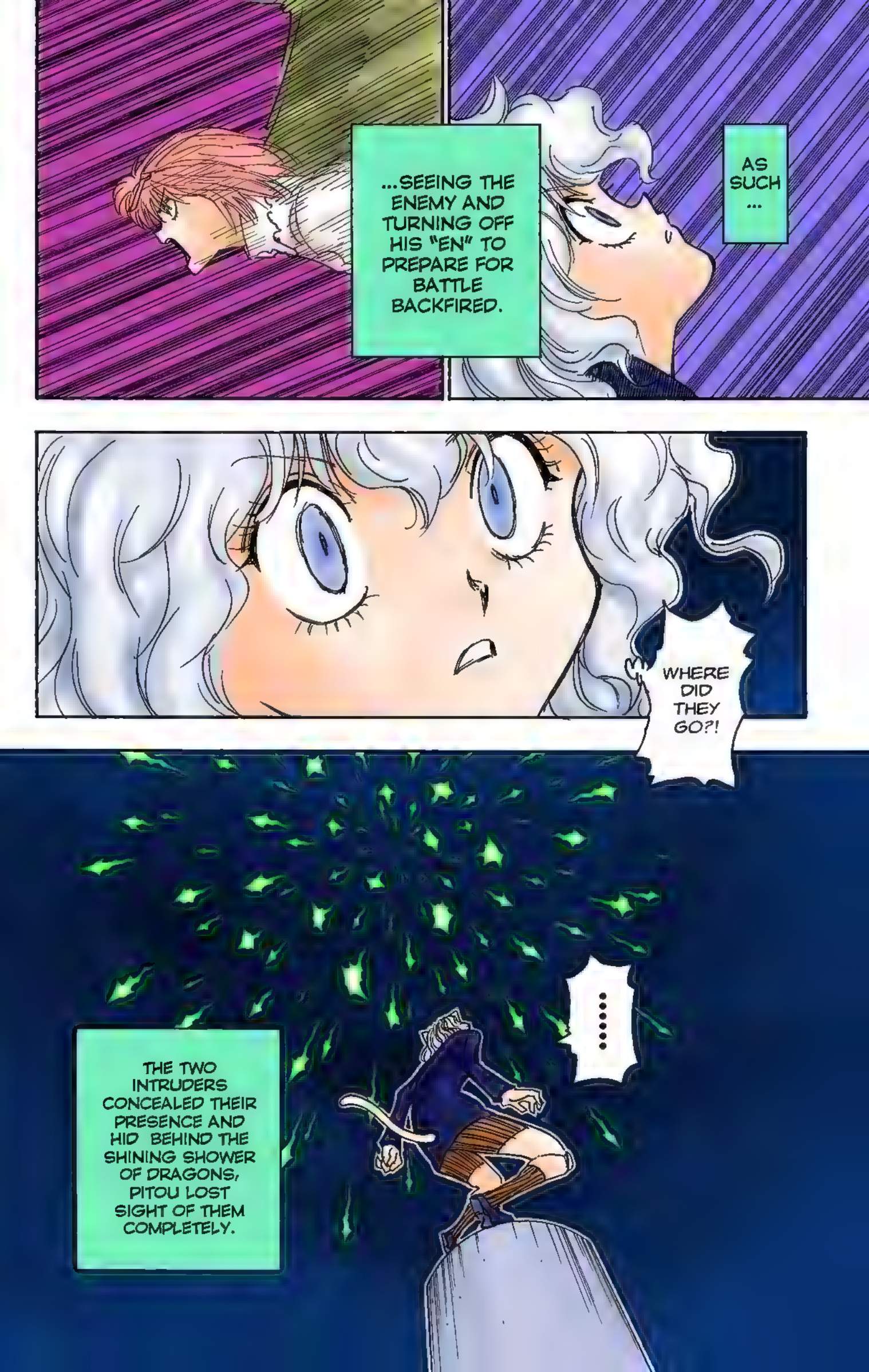
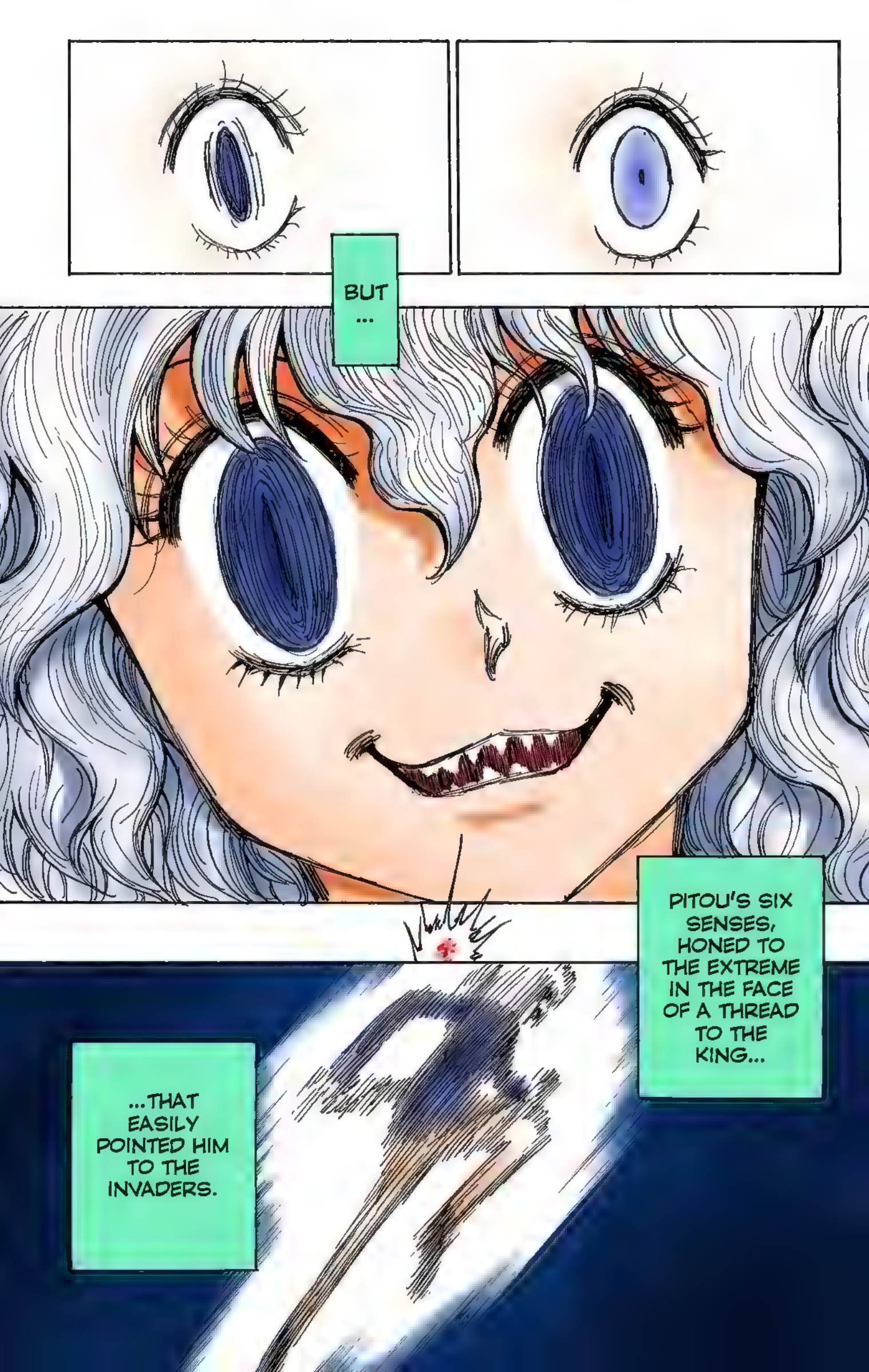
GO!!

DIGITAL
SHUEISHA JUMP COMICS


SIRE!!!
WITHOUT A THOUGHT OF THE CONSE QUENCES...
POUF DEFIED THE KING'S ORDERS AND RUSHED DIRECTLY TO THE THRONE ROOM ON THE THIRD FLOOR.
No.264 ◆ CHARGE: PART ④

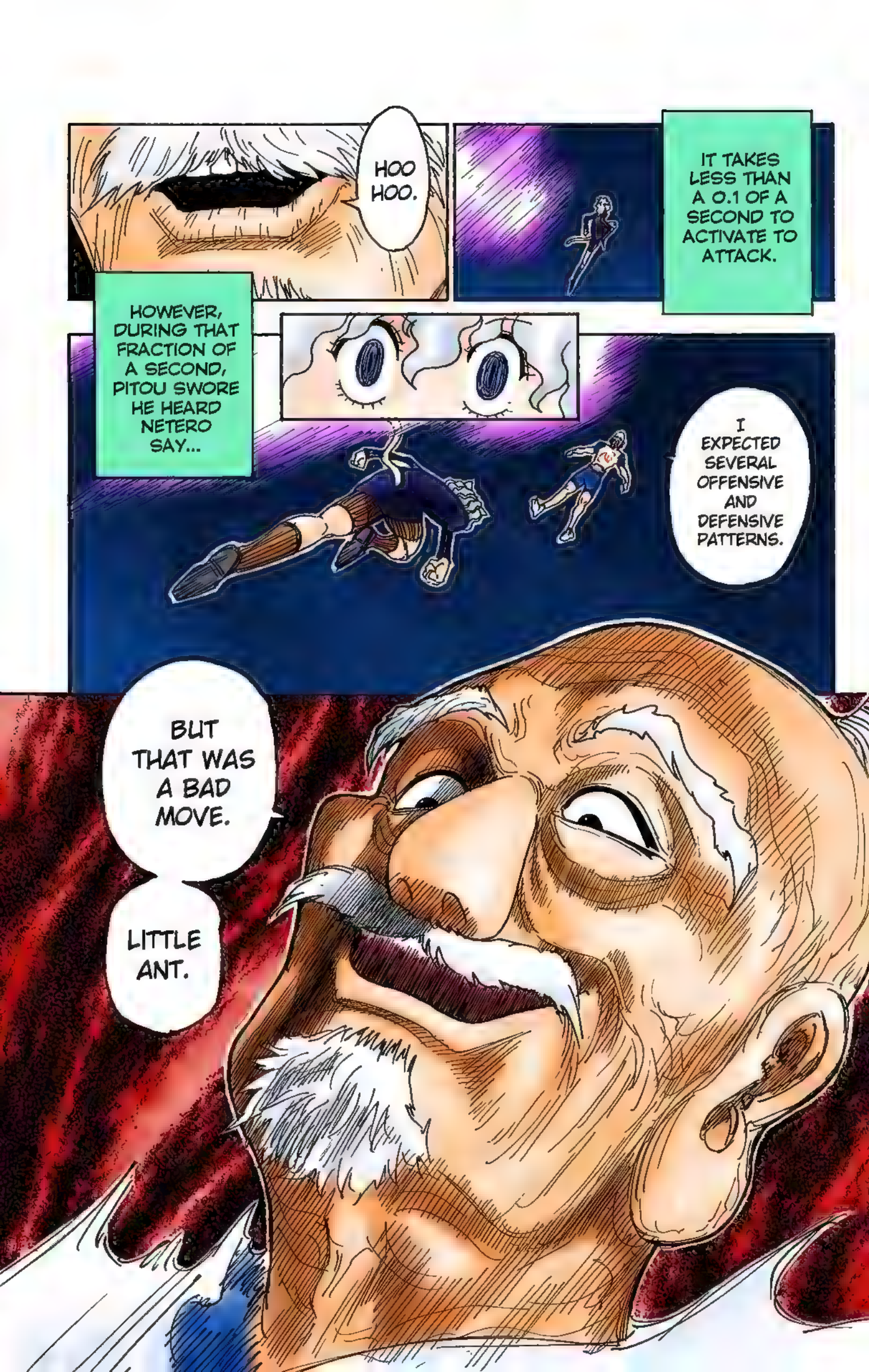
WYVERN METEOR STORM: DRAGON DIVE!!!
No.264 ◆ CHARGE: PART 4

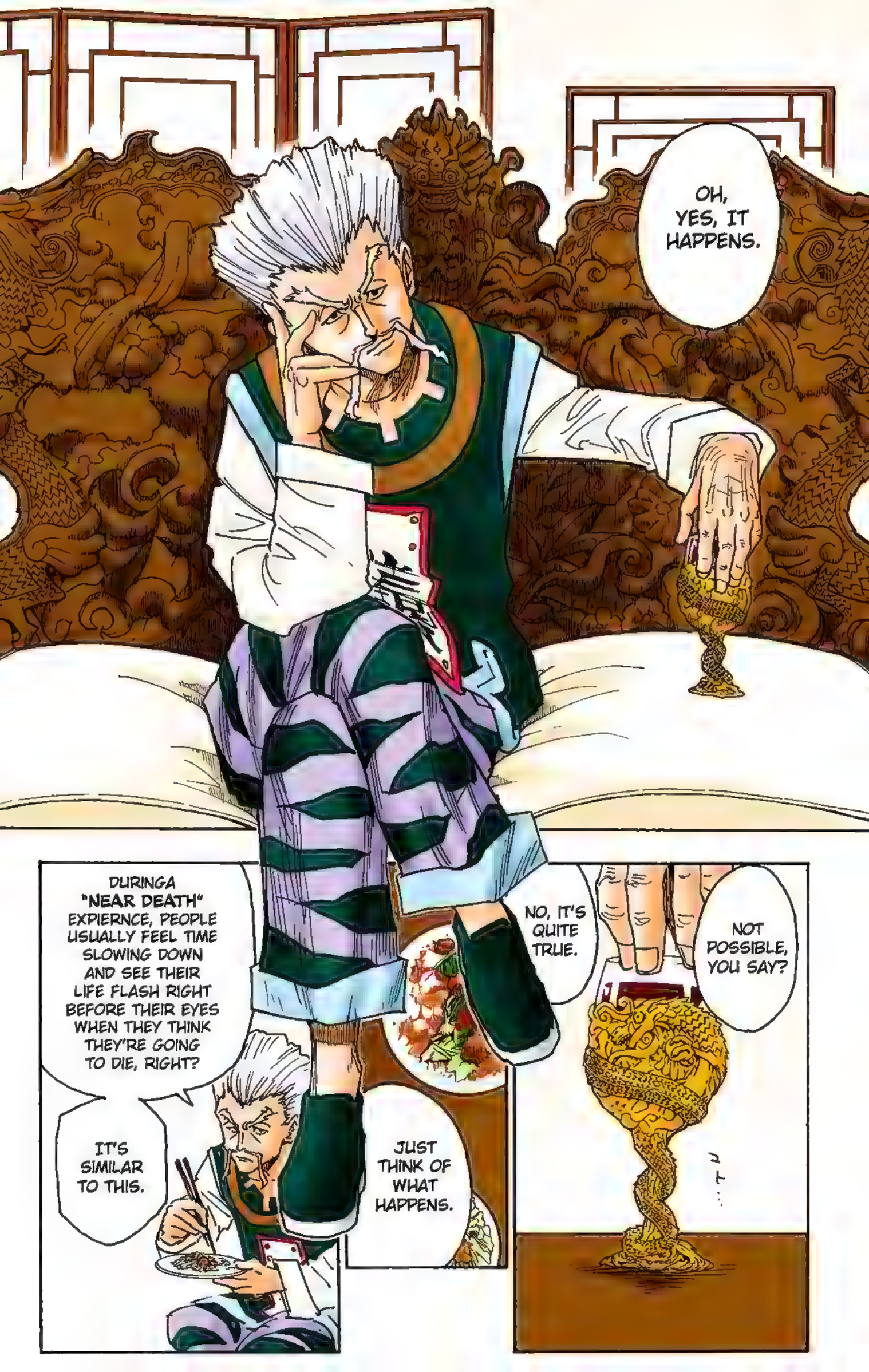

...SEEING THE ENEMY AND TURNING OFF HIS "EN" TO PREPARE FOR BATTLE BACKFIRED.
AS SUCH ...
WHERE DID THEY GO?!
THE TWO INTRUDERS CONCEALED THEIR PRESENCE AND HID BEHIND THE SHINING SHOWER OF DRAGONS, PITOU LOST SIGHT OF THEM COMPLETELY.
.....

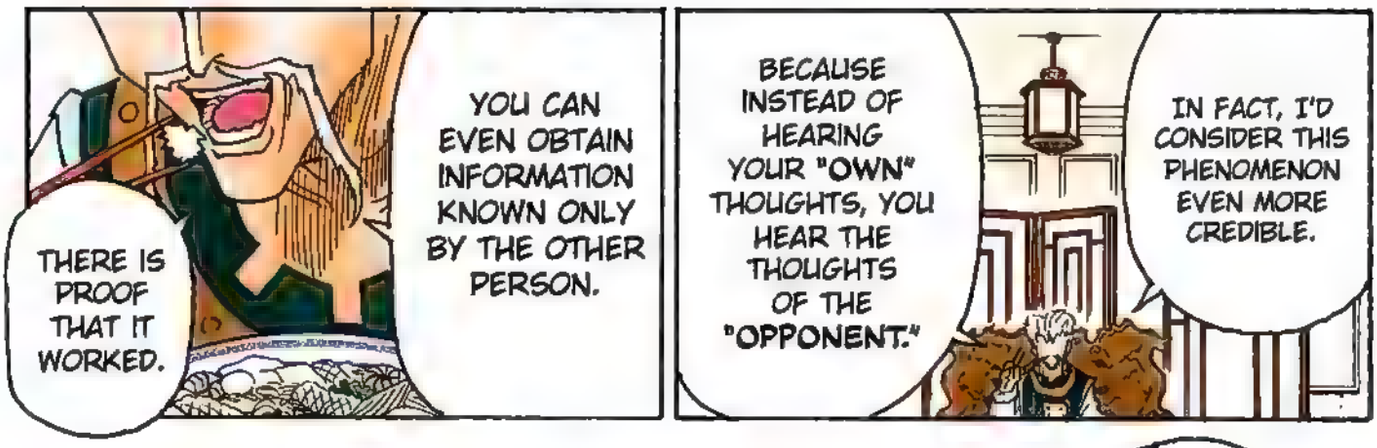

BUT ...
PITOU'S SIX SENSES, HONED TO THE EXTREME IN THE FACE OF A THREAD TO THE KING...
...THAT EASILY POINTED HIM TO THE INVADERS.

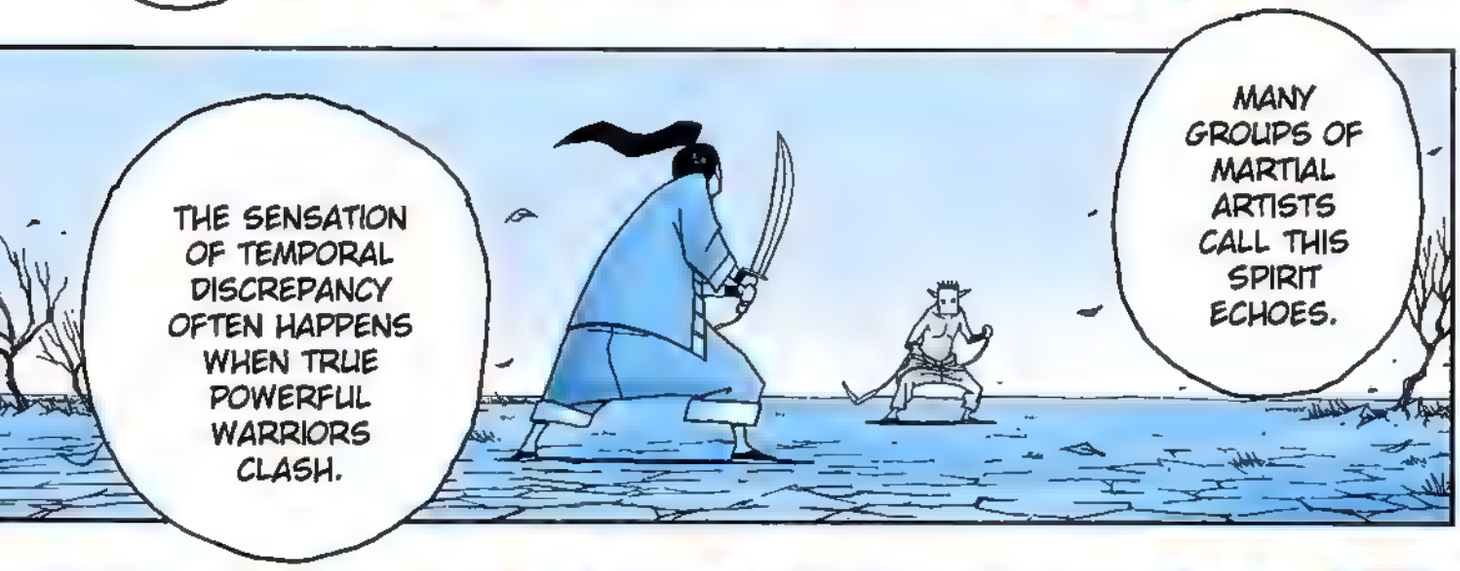
...THAN THE HUMAN IN THE SKY!!!
THE COUNTLESS DRAGONS THAT RAINED DOWN WERE LESS SIGNIFICANT THREATS...

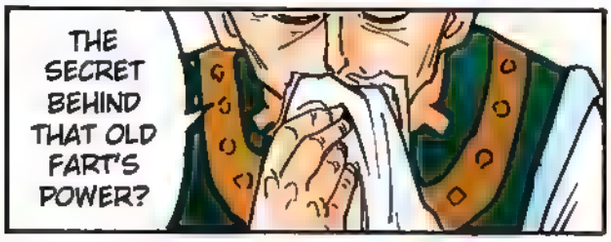
WHEN PITOU USES THIS NEN ABILITY TO FIGHT AT FULL STRENGTH...
PUPPET MASTER'S SERENITY: TERPSI-CHORA!

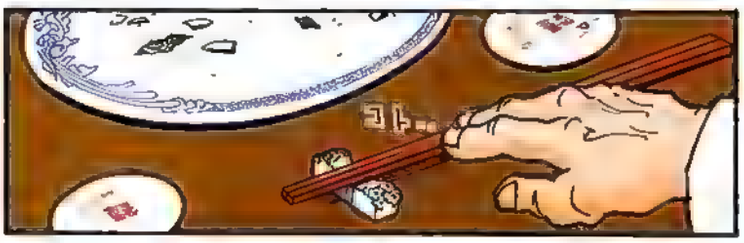

HOO HOO.
IT TAKES LESS THAN A 0.1 OF A SECOND TO ACTIVATE TO ATTACK.
HOWEVER, DURING THAT FRACTION OF A SECOND, PITOU SWORE HE HEARD NETERO SAY...
I EXPECTED SEVERAL OFFENSIVE AND DEFENSIVE PATTERNS.
BUT THAT WAS A BAD MOVE.
LITTLE ANT.


OH, YES, IT HAPPENS.
DURINGA "NEAR DEATH" EXPIERNCE, PEOPLE USUALLY FEEL TIME SLOWING DOWN AND SEE THEIR LIFE FLASH RIGHT BEFORE THEIR EYES WHEN THEY THINK THEY'RE GOING TO DIE, RIGHT?
NO, IT'S QUITE TRUE.
NOT POSSIBLE, YOU SAY?
IT'S SIMILAR TO THIS.
JUST THINK OF WHAT HAPPENS.

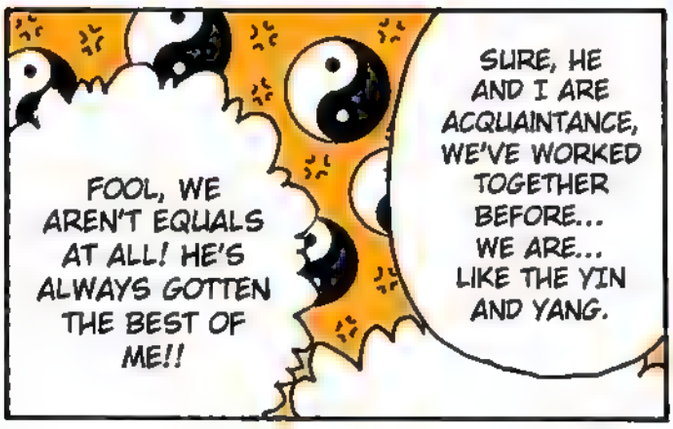

THERE IS PROOF THAT IT WORKED.
YOU CAN EVEN OBTAIN INFORMATION KNOWN ONLY BY THE OTHER PERSON.
BECAUSE INSTEAD OF HEARING YOUR "OWN" THOUGHTS, YOU HEAR THE THOUGHTS OF THE "OPPONENT."
IN FACT, I'D CONSIDER THIS PHENOMENON EVEN MORE CREDIBLE.


THE SENSATION OF TEMPORAL DISCREPANCY OFTEN HAPPENS WHEN TRUE POWERFUL WARRIORS CLASH.
MANY GROUPS OF MARTIAL ARTISTS CALL THIS SPIRIT ECHOES.


THE SECRET BEHIND THAT OLD FART'S POWER?



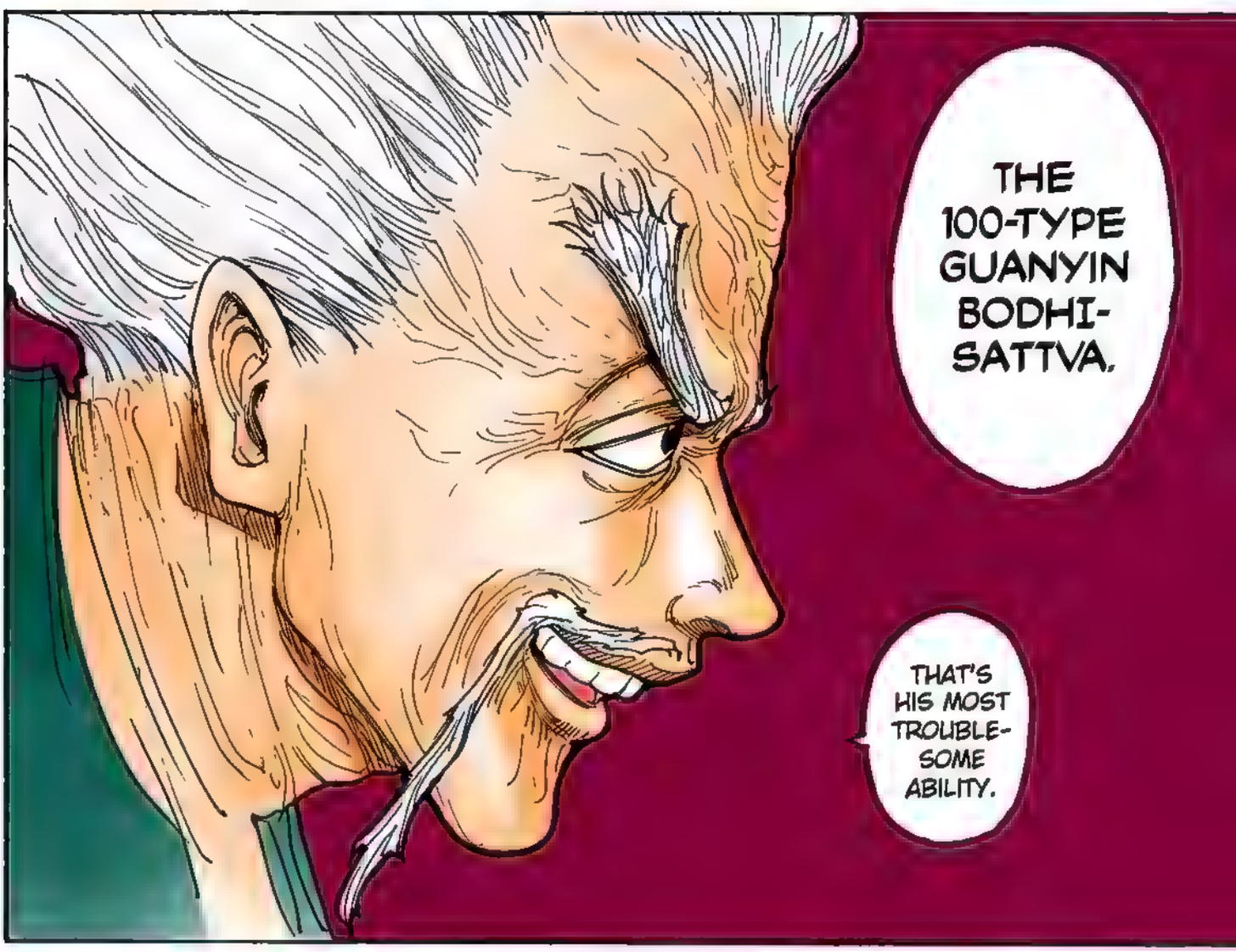
FIRST, HIS "NEN" IS AWFULLY QUIET.
NO ONE CAN READ HIS NEXT MOVE FROM THE FLOW OF HIS AURA.
WELL... I CAN THINK OF SEVERAL POSSIBILITIES.

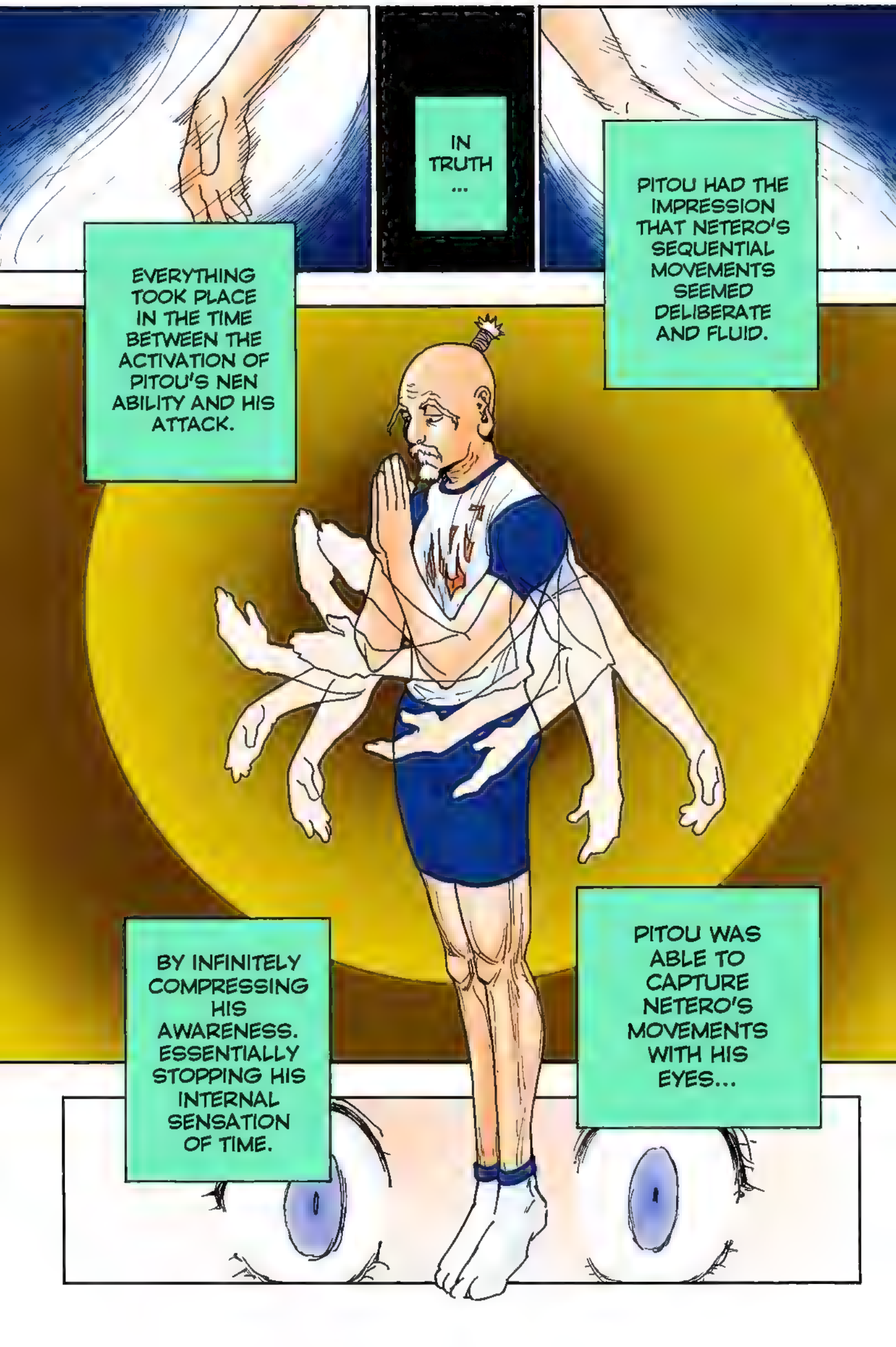

SURE, HE AND I ARE ACQUAINTANCE, WE'VE WORKED TOGETHER BEFORE... WE ARE... LIKE THE YIN AND YANG.
FOOL, WE AREN'T EQUALS AT ALL! HE'S ALWAYS GOTTEN THE BEST OF ME!!

HELL, HE WAS ALREADY AN OLD MAN WHEN I WAS STILL A BABY.
SAME OLD AGE
HE HASN'T LIVED LONG FOR NOTHING. HE MIGHT AS WELL BE A VENERABLE TREE.
HE'S THE ONLY ONE TO FIGHT MY GRANDPA AND SURVIVE.
ALWAYS OLD

THE SECRET TO HIS POWER.
WHAT? OH YES.

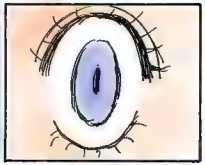
WHEN IT COMES TO COMBAT HE HAS...
WELL... OTHER THAN THAT.


THE 100-TYPE GUANYIN BODHI-SATTVA.
THAT'S HIS MOST TROUBLE-SOME ABILITY.

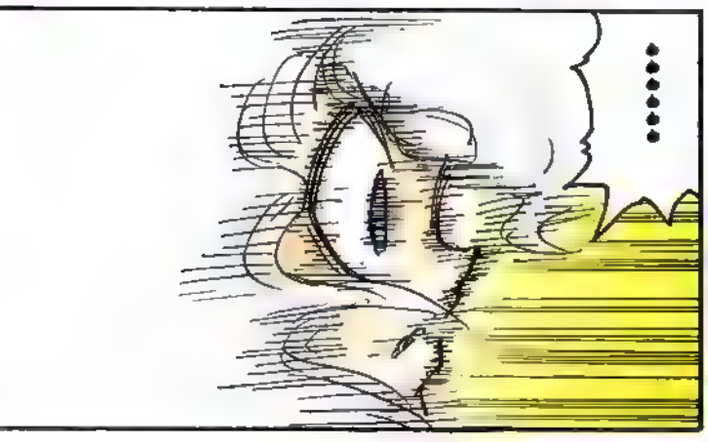

EVERYTHING TOOK PLACE IN THE TIME BETWEEN THE ACTIVATION OF PITOU'S NEN ABILITY AND HIS ATTACK.
IN TRUTH ...
PITOU HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT NETERO'S SEQUENTIAL MOVEMENTS SEEMED DELIBERATE AND FLUID.
BY INFINITELY COMPRESSING HIS AWARENESS. ESSENTIALLY STOPPING HIS INTERNAL SENSATION OF TIME.
PITOU WAS ABLE TO CAPTURE NETERO'S MOVEMENTS WITH HIS EYES...

IT WAS AN ATTACK SO SWIFT...

...IT WAS UNAVOI-DABLE.



!?
CONSI-DERING WHERE HIS HANDS STOPPED, THAT ATTACK CAME FROM AN IMPOSSIBLE DIRECTION...
BUT HOW ?!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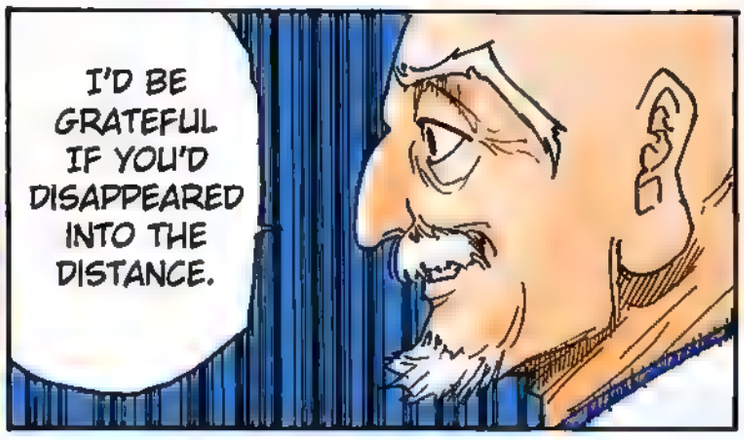
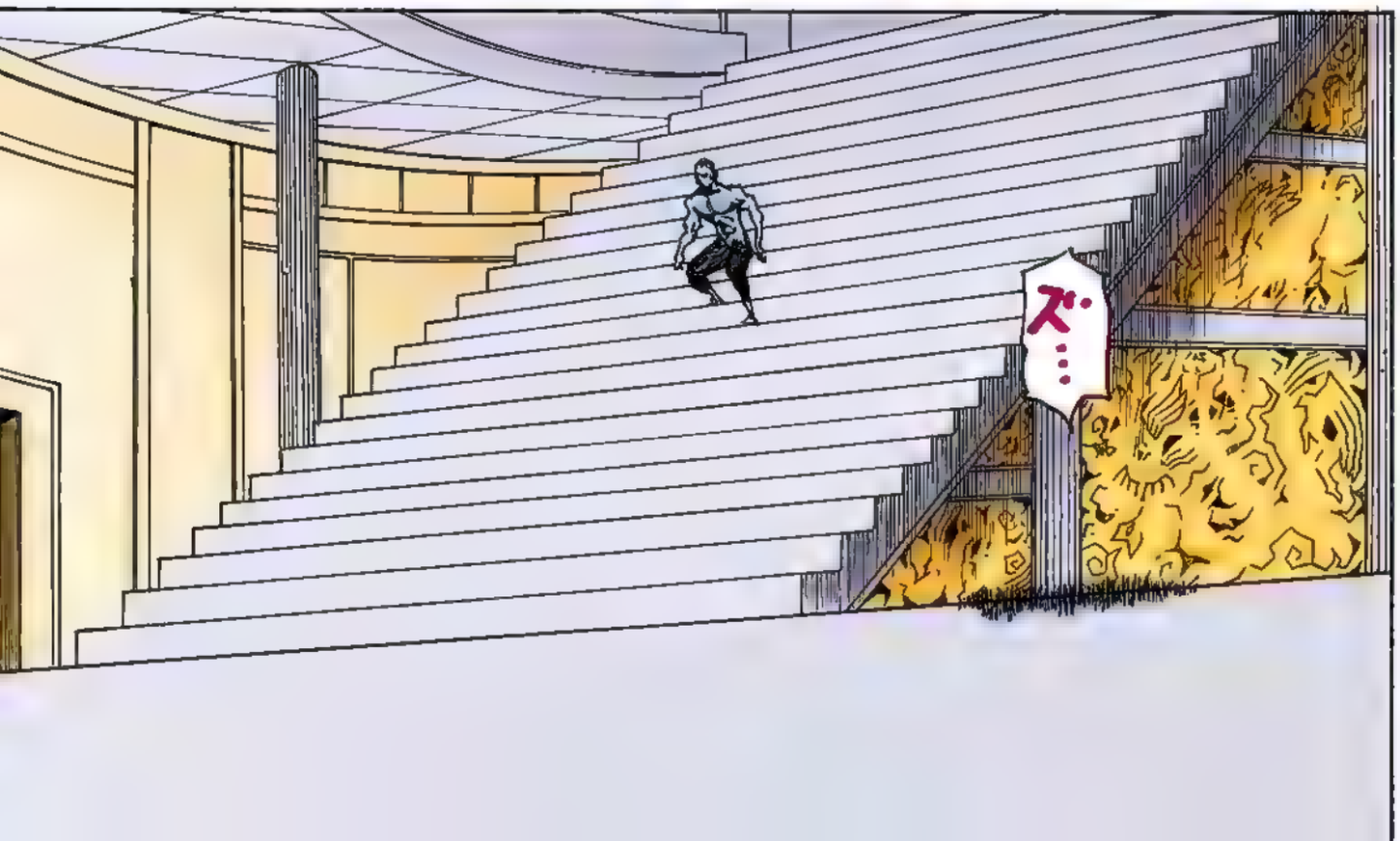

I'D BE GRATEFUL IF YOU'D DISAPPEARED INTO THE DISTANCE.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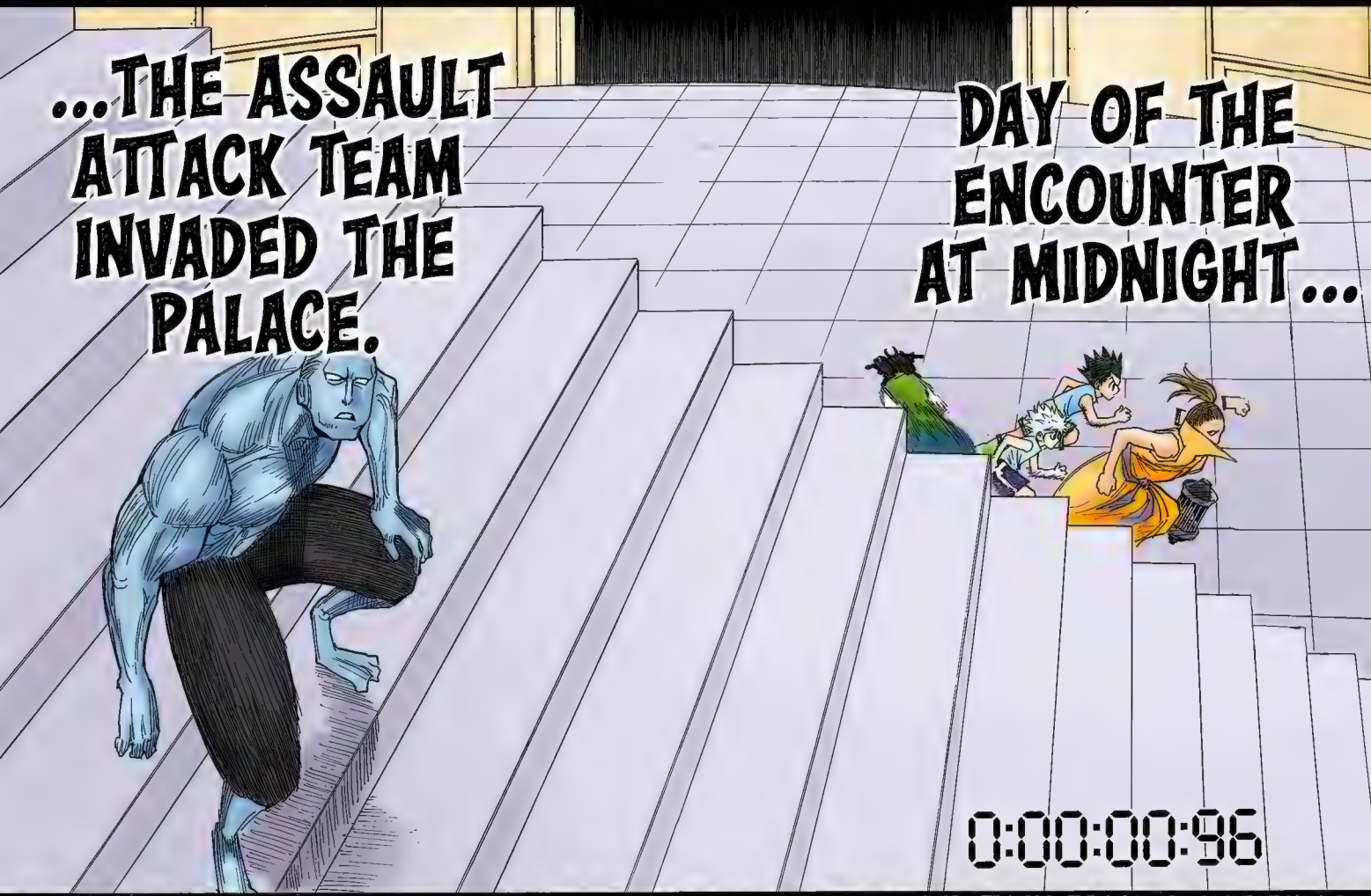
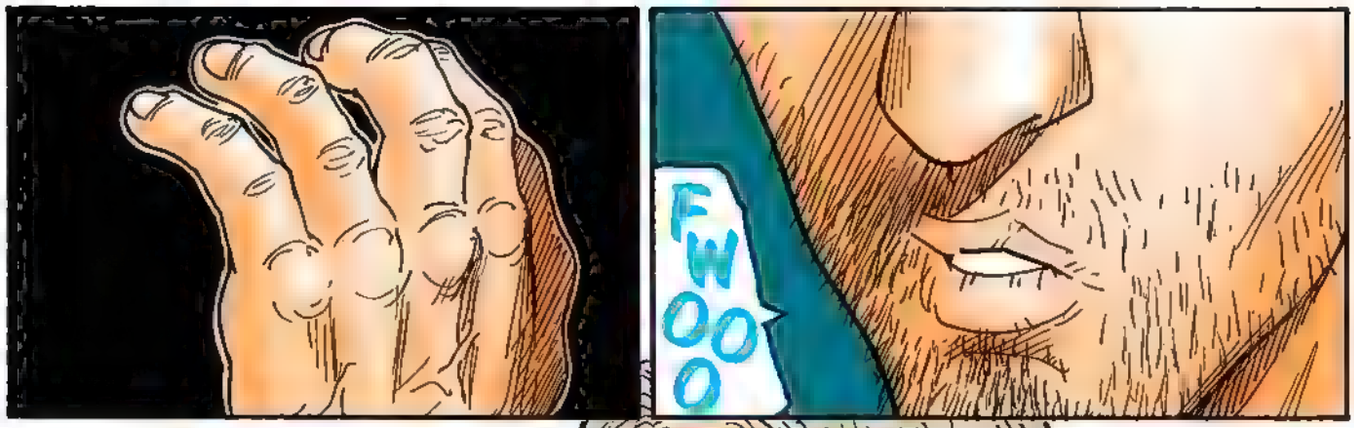
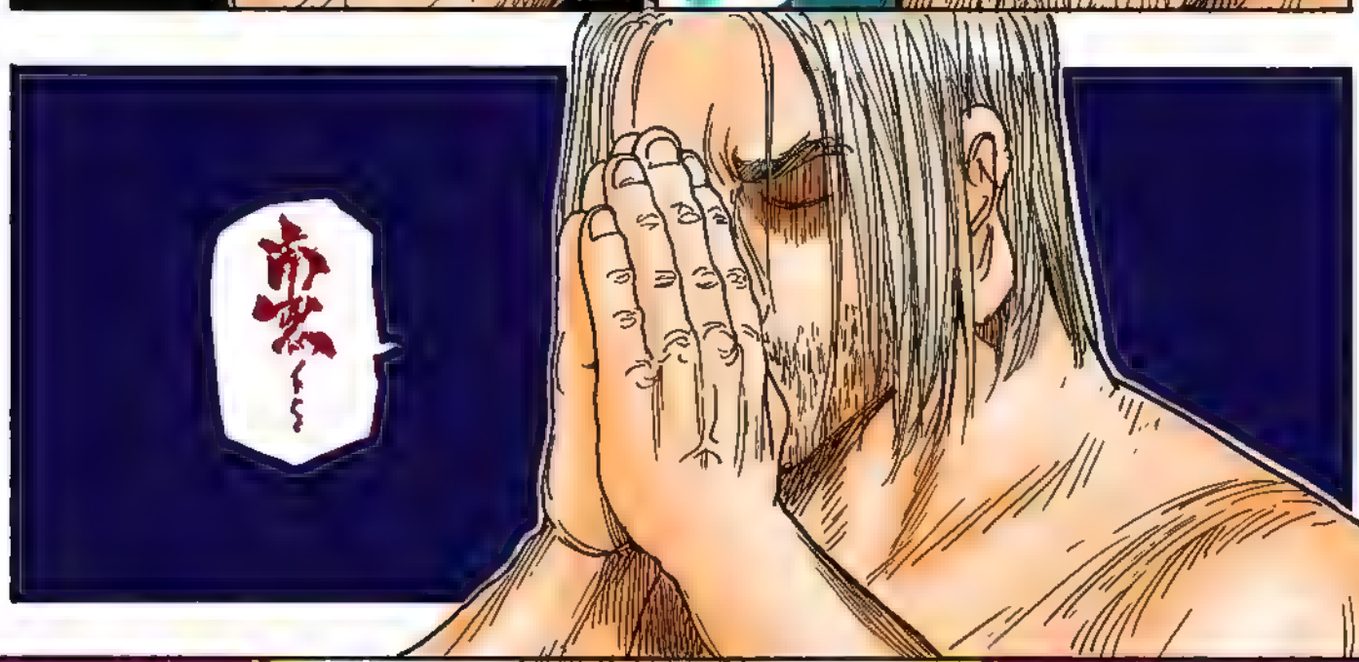

...THE ASSAULT ATTACK TEAM INVADED THE PALACE.
DAY OF THE ENCOUNTER AT MIDNIGHT...
0:00:00:96

DIGITAL
SHUEISHA JUMP COMICS


FWOOO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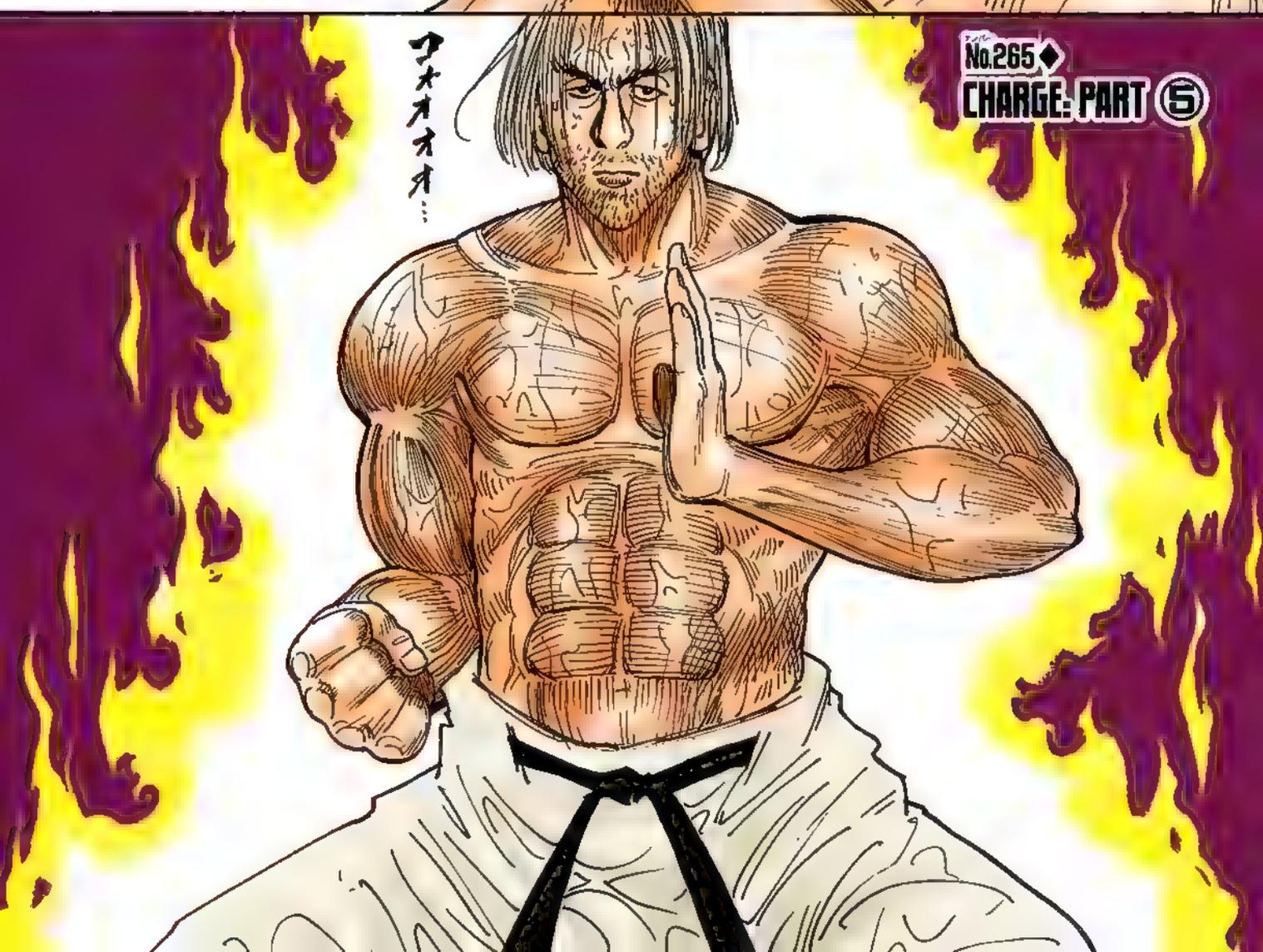
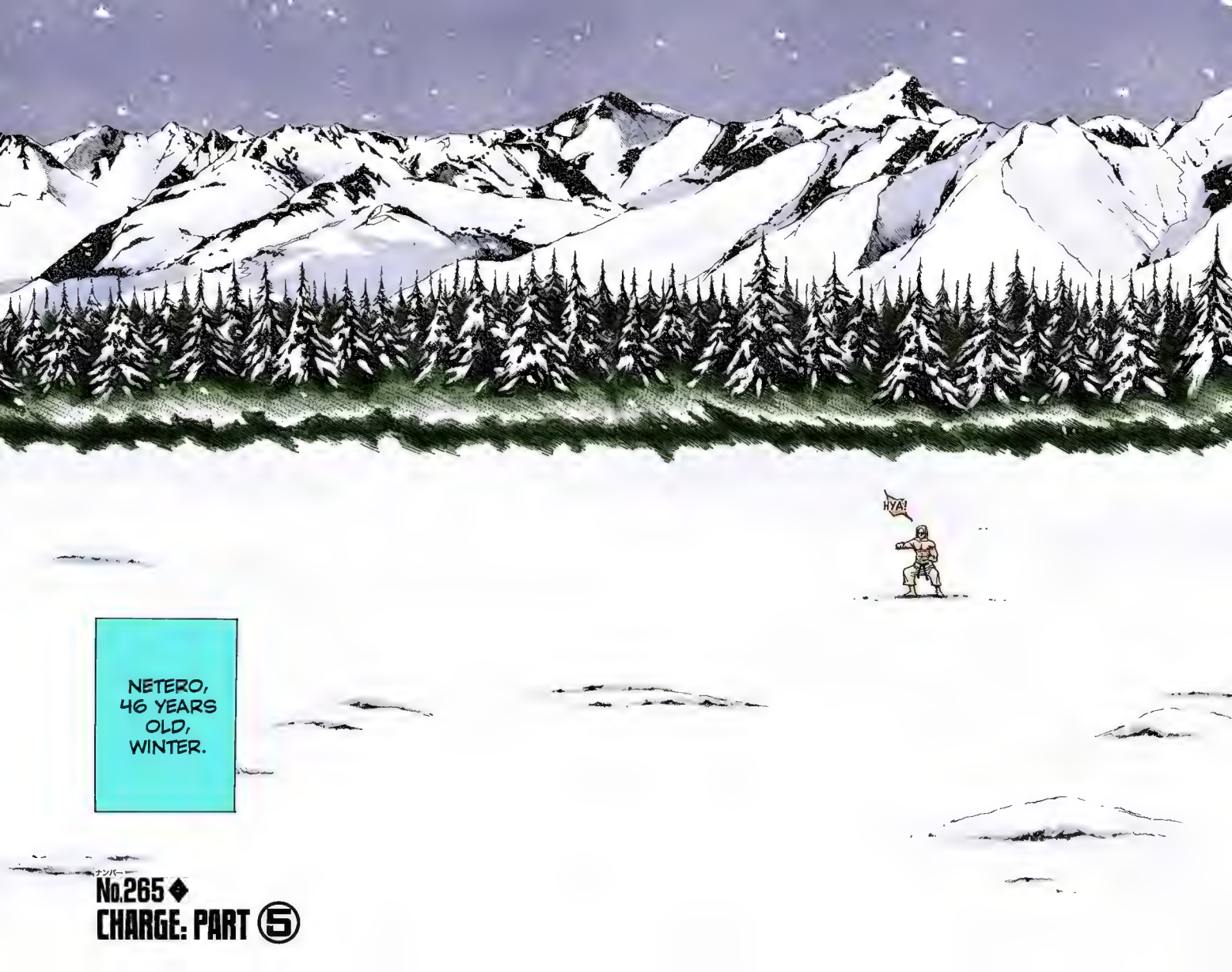
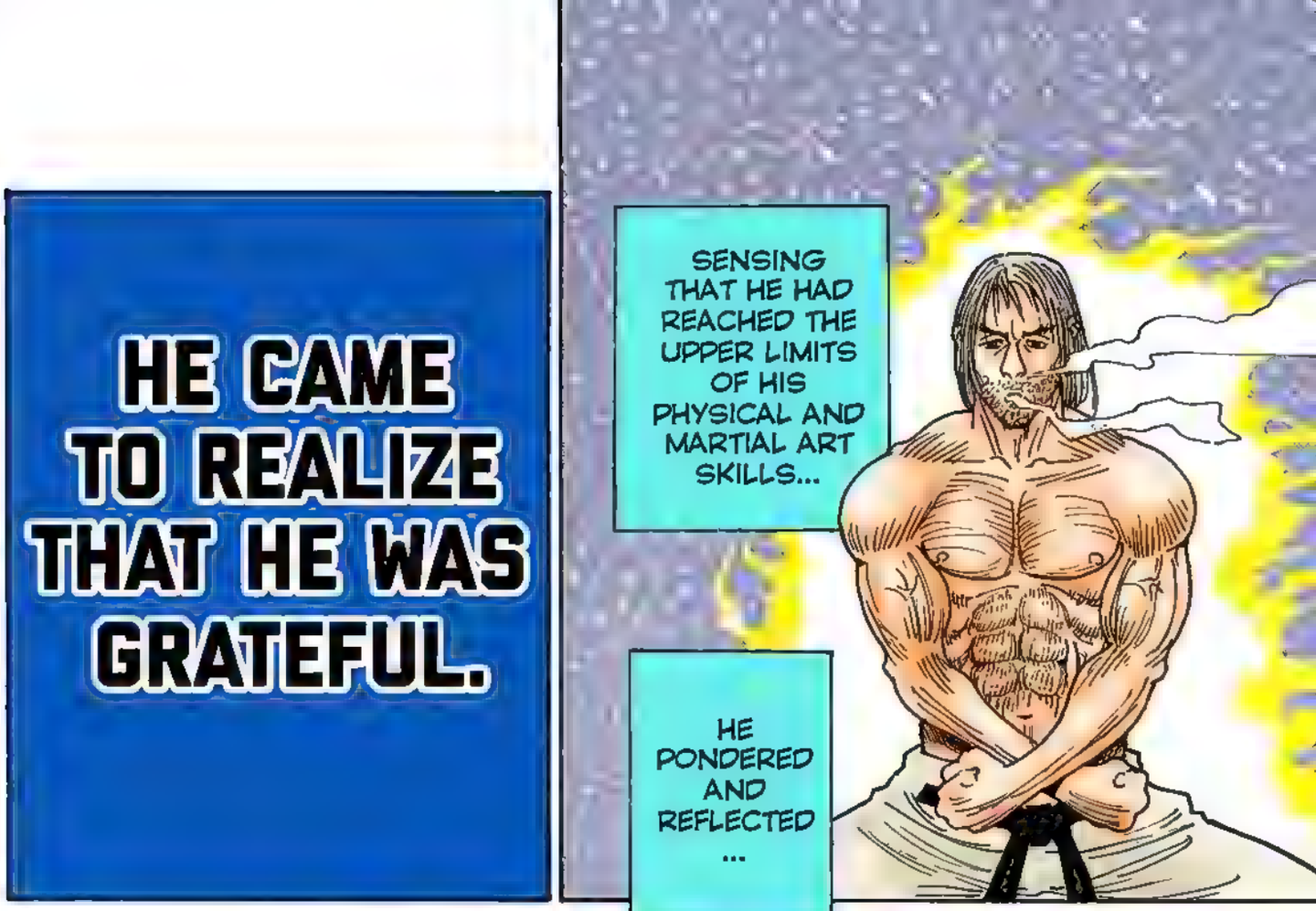
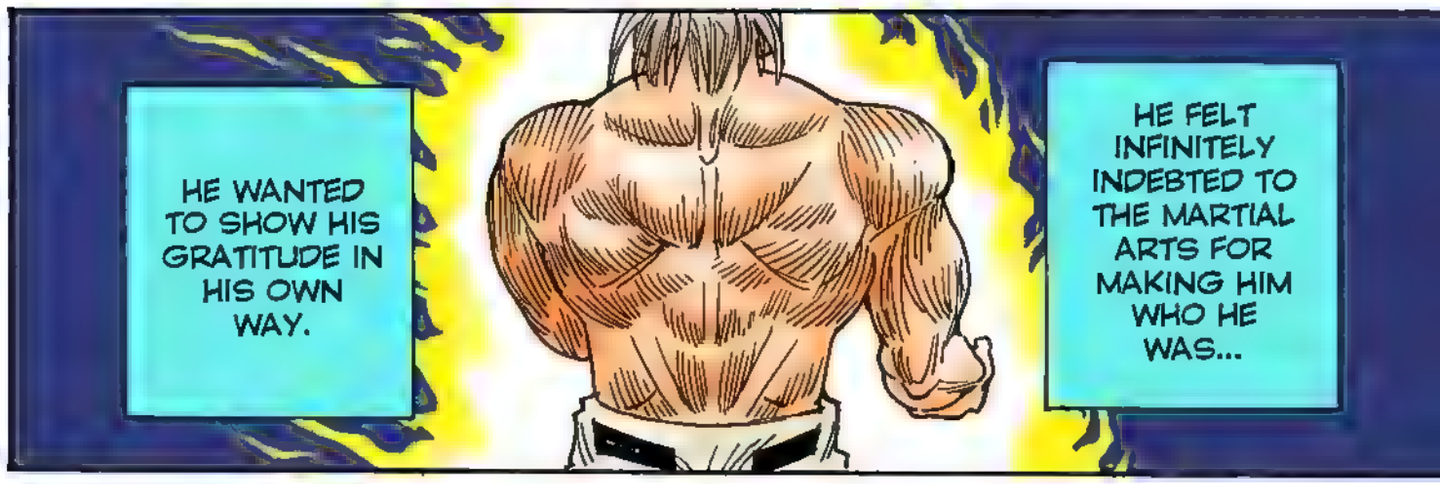
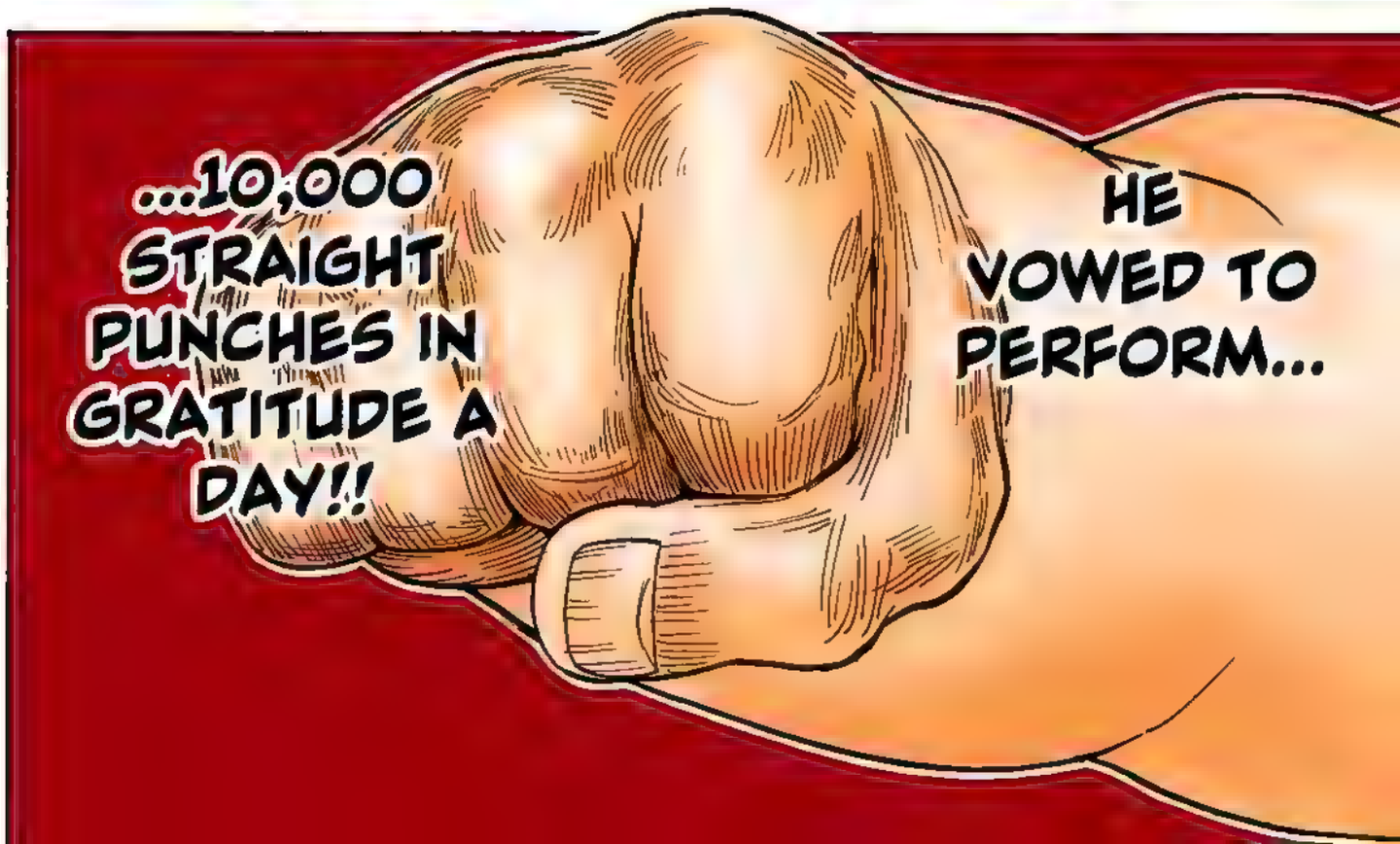

フォオオオ…
No.265
CHARGE: PART 5

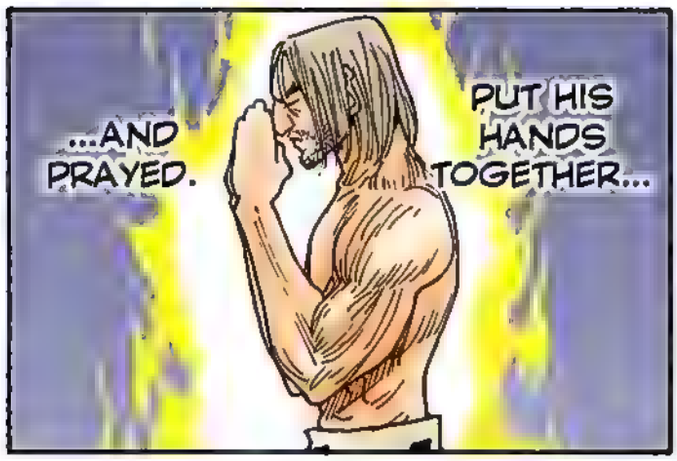


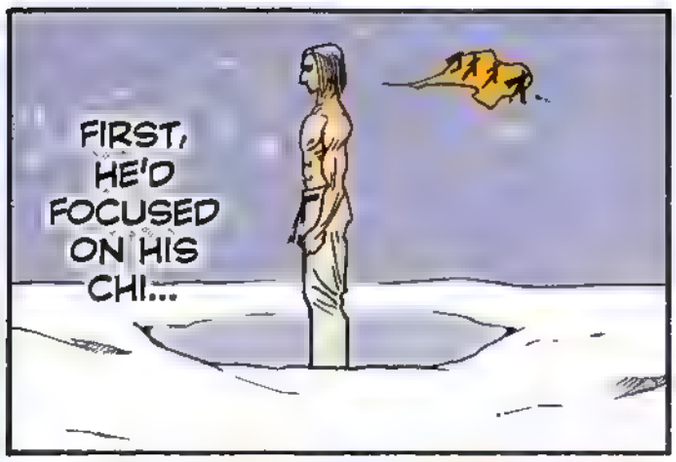
No.265 ◆
CHARGE: PART 5

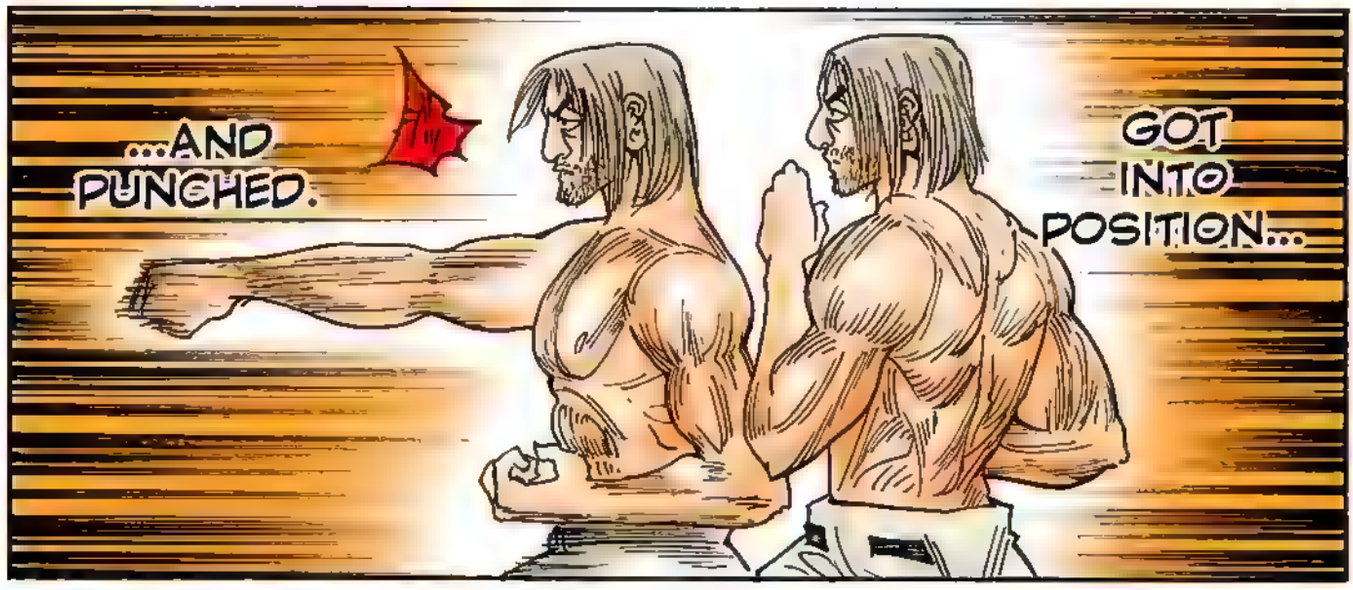

HE CAME TO REALIZE THAT HE WAS GRATEFUL.
SENSING THAT HE HAD REACHED THE UPPER LIMITS OF HIS PHYSICAL AND MARTIAL ART SKILLS...
HE PONDERED AND REFLECTED ...


HE WANTED TO SHOW HIS GRATITUDE IN HIS OWN WAY.
HE FELT INFINITELY INDEBTED TO THE MARTIAL ARTS FOR MAKING HIM WHO HE WAS...

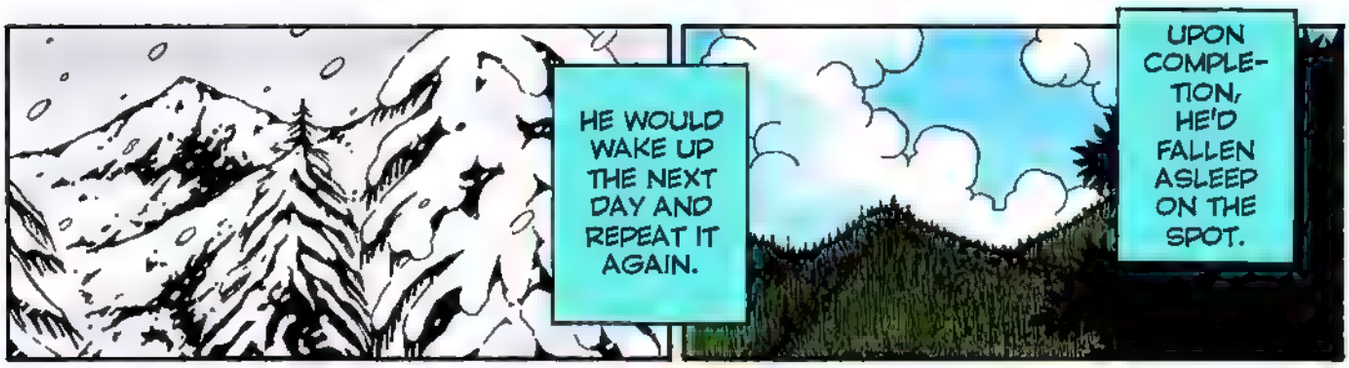

...10,000 STRAIGHT PUNCHES IN GRATITUDE A DAY!!
HE VOWED TO PERFORM...

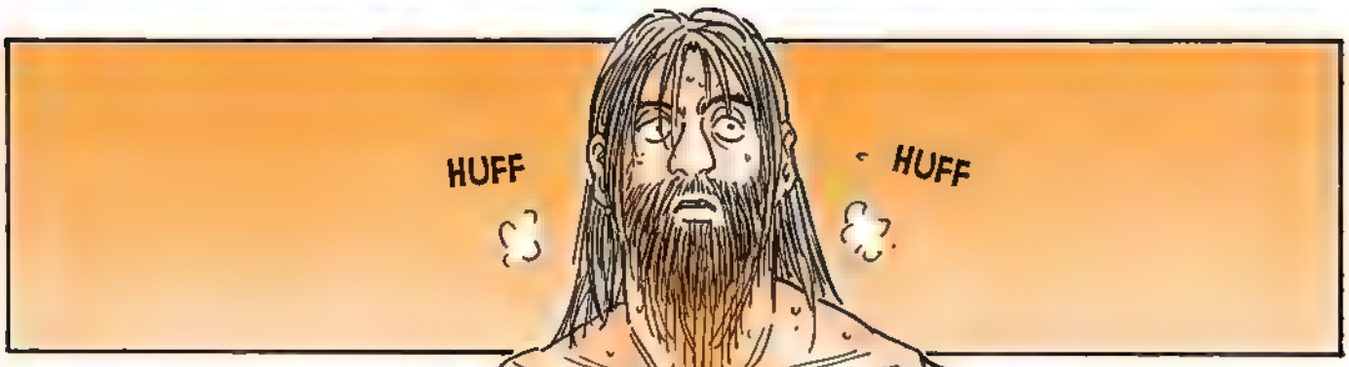

...AND PRAYED.
PUT HIS HANDS TOGETHER...


FIRST, HE'D FOCUSED ON HIS CHI...


...AND PUNCHED.
GOT INTO POSITION...

ON THIS FIRST DAY, HE REQUIRED OVER 18 HOURS TO COMPLETE 10,000 PUNCHES.
AT FIRST, HE SPENT 5 TO 6 SECONDS TO CARRY OUT THIS SEQUENCE.


HE WOULD WAKE UP THE NEXT DAY AND REPEAT IT AGAIN.
UPON COMPLE-TION, HE'D FALLEN ASLEEP ON THE SPOT.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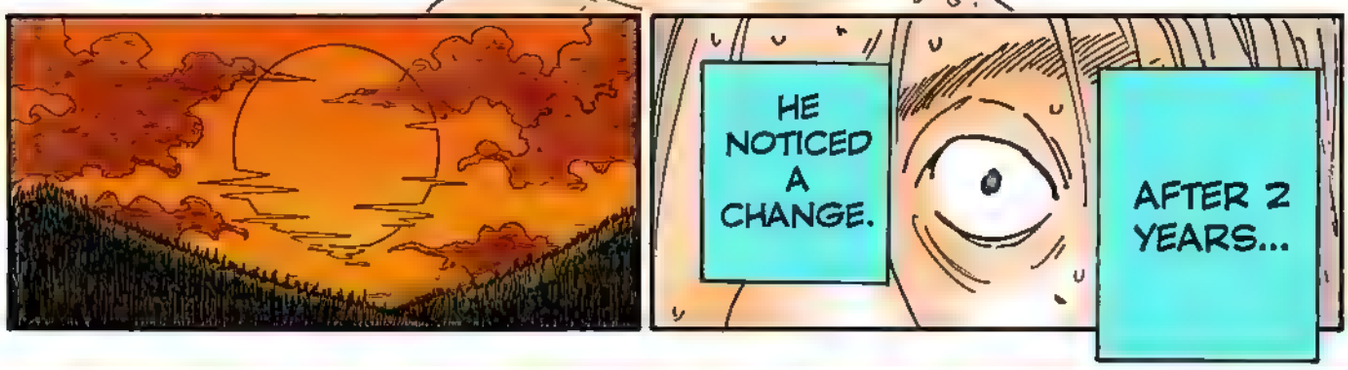
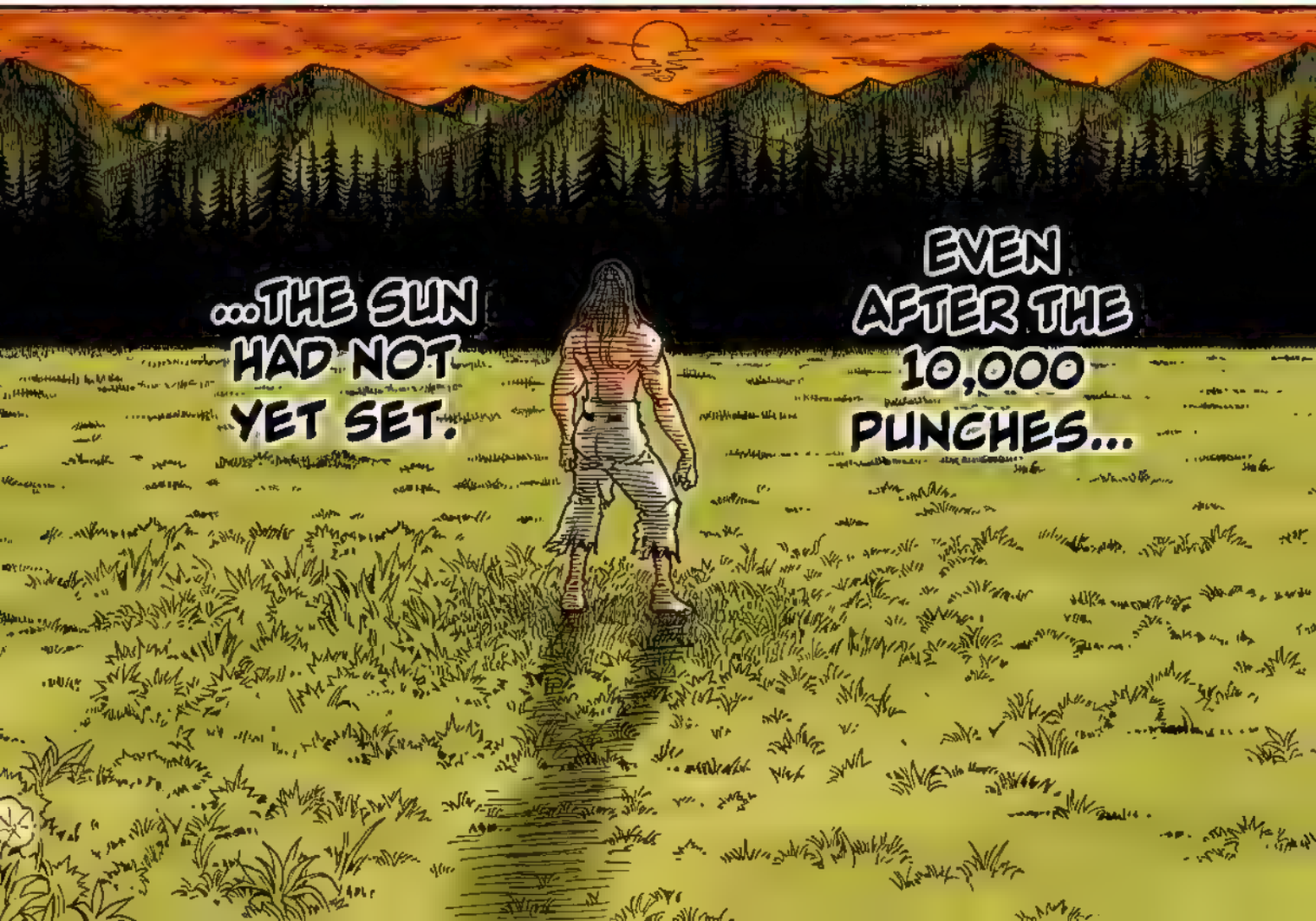
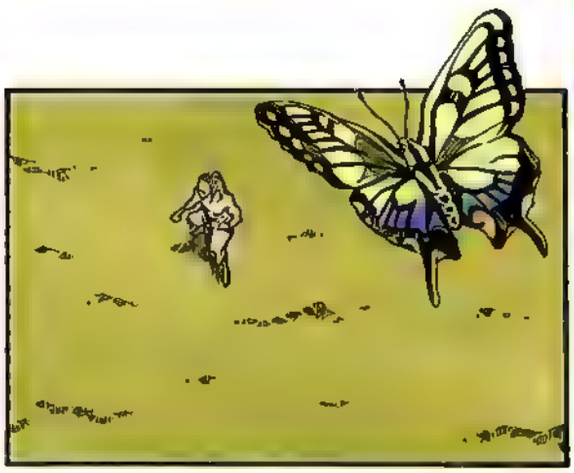

HE NOTICED A CHANGE.
AFTER 2 YEARS...


...THE SUN HAD NOT YET SET.
EVEN AFTER THE 10,000 PUNCHES...



...HE EXPERIENCED A COMPLETE METAMOR-PHOSIS.
WHEN HE REACHED THE AGE OF 50...

...10,000 PUNCHES OF GRATITUDE IN LESS THAN AN HOUR!!
HE MANAGED TO COMPLETE...

...THIS GAVE HIM MORE TIME TO PRAY.
THUS...

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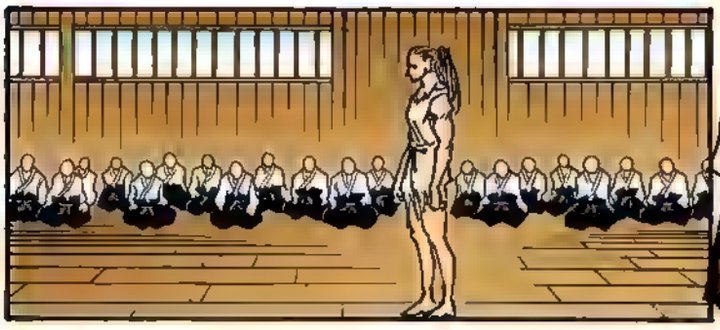
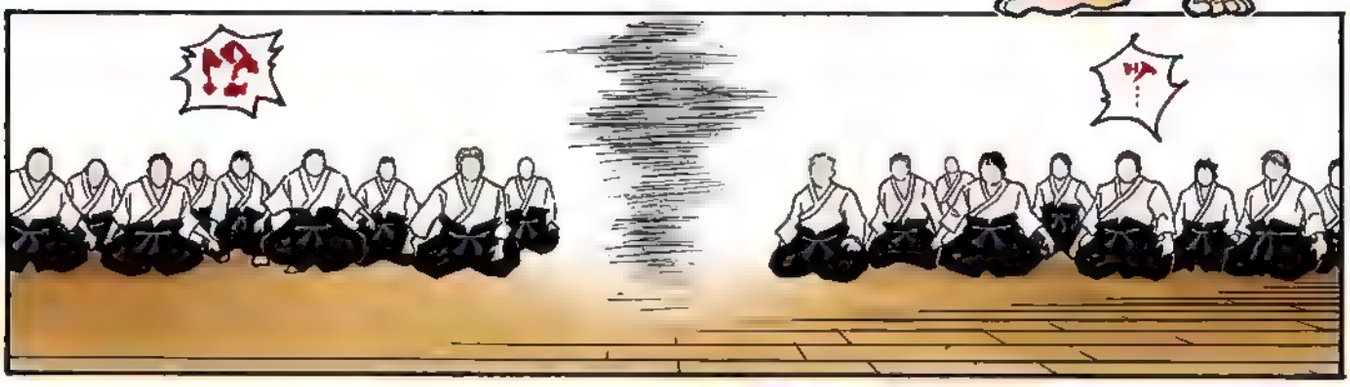
NETERO'S FISTS!!
WHEN HE CAME DOWN FROM THE MOUNTAIN
...

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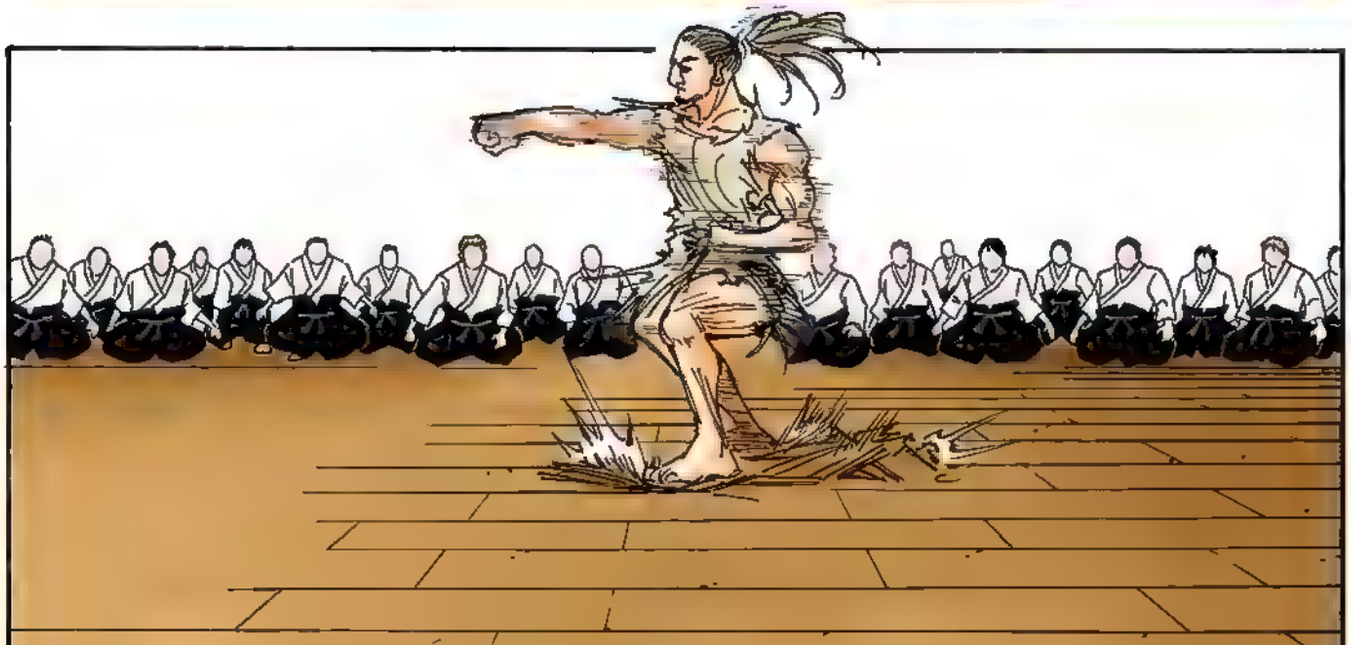
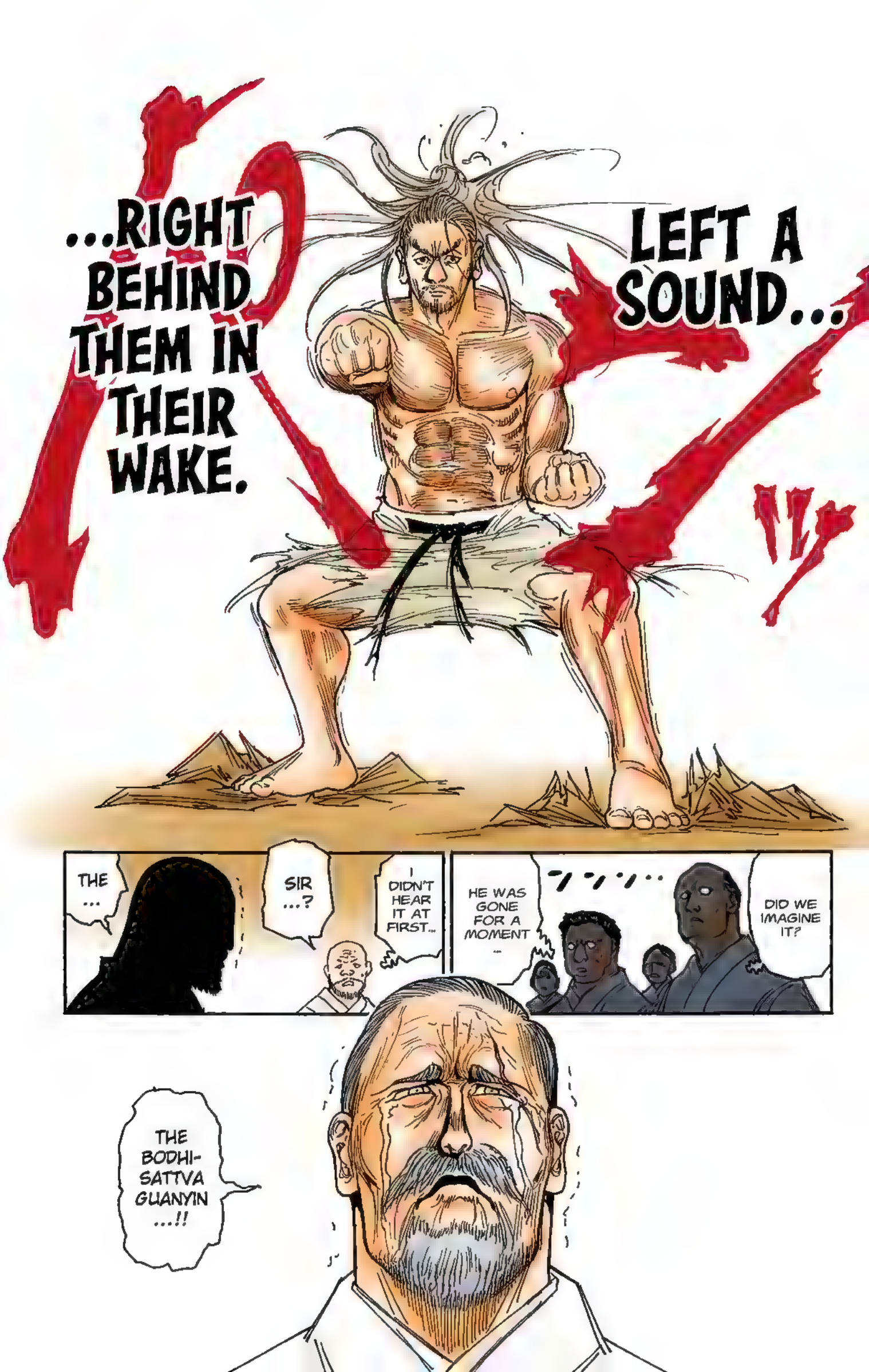
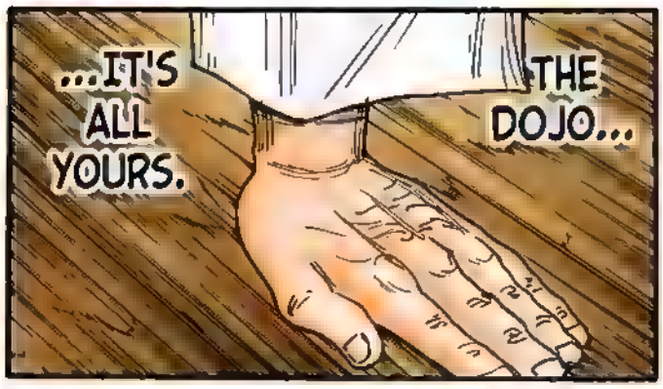
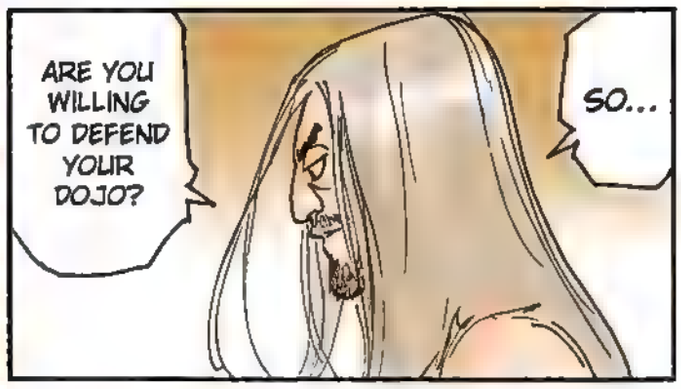



...RIGHT BEHIND THEM IN THEIR WAKE.
LEFT A SOUND...
THE ...
SIR ...?
I DIDN'T HEAR IT AT FIRST...
HE WAS GONE FOR A MOMENT ...
DID WE IMAGINE IT?
THE BODHI-SATTVA GUANYIN ...!!





PLEASE, I BEG OF YOU...

IT WAS THE BIRTH...

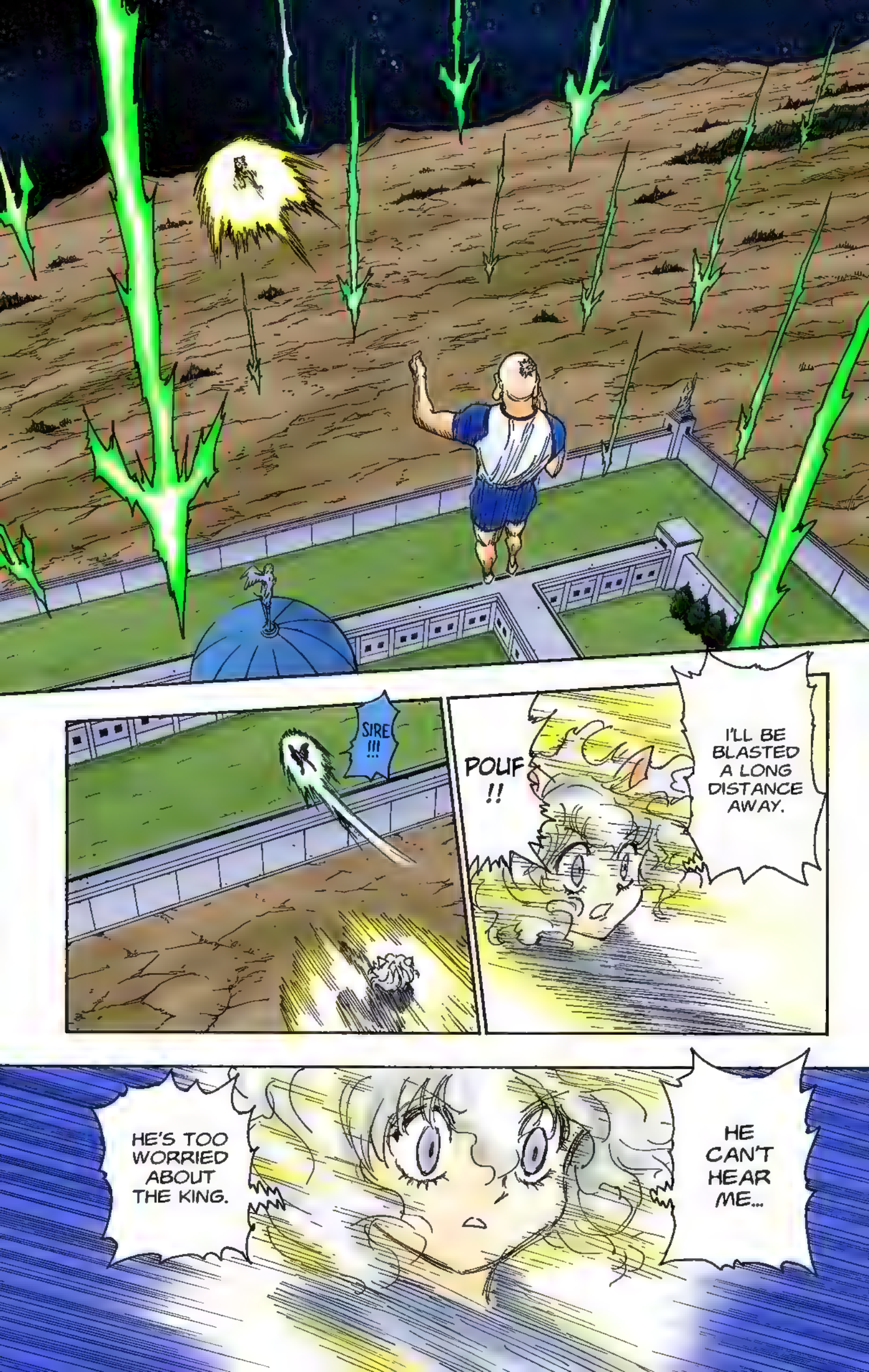
...OF A TRUE MONSTER.

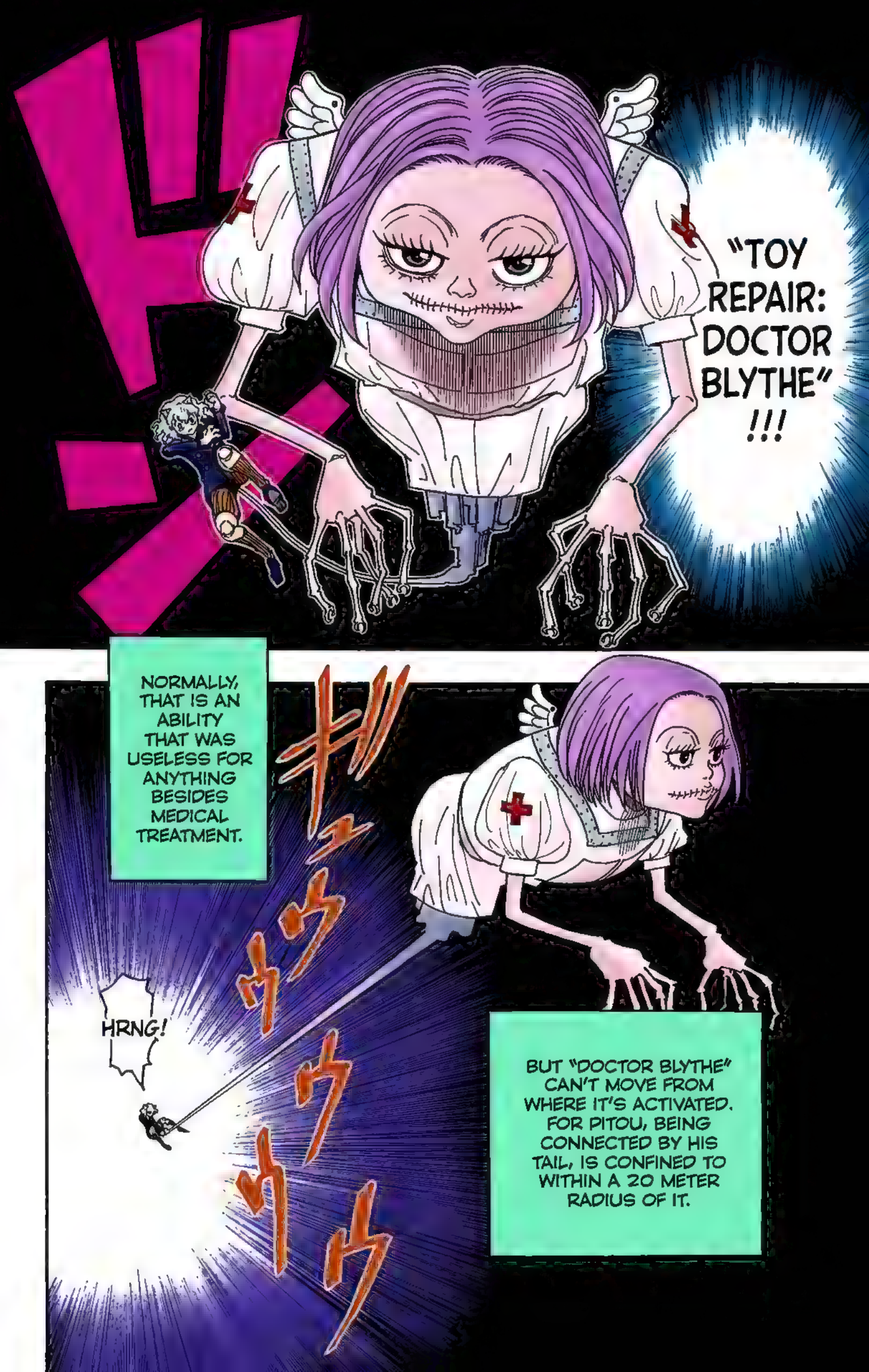
MAKE ME YOUR PUPIL ...!!

SURE, FINE.

IF YOU TREAT ME TO A MEAL.

THIS TOOK PLACE OVER SIX DECADES AGO.


SIRE !!!
POUF !!
I'LL BE BLASTED A LONG DISTANCE AWAY.
HE'S TOO WORRIED ABOUT THE KING.
HE CAN'T HEAR ME...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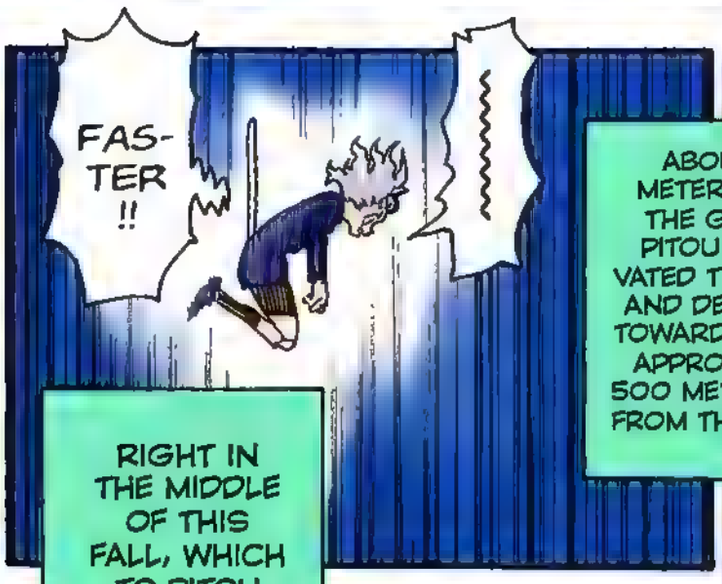
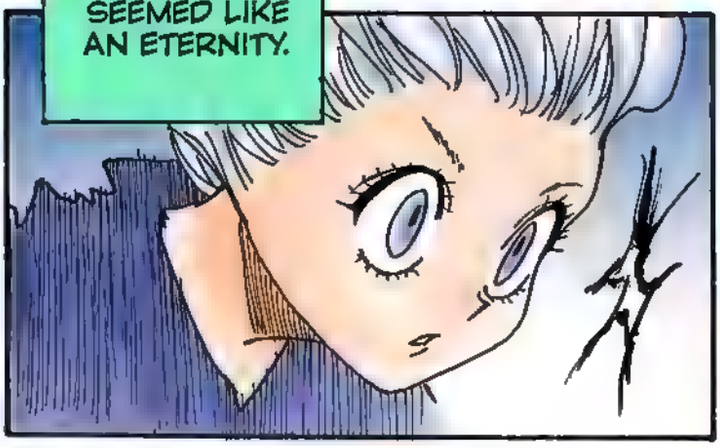
"TOY REPAIR: DOCTOR BLYTHE" !!!
NORMALLY, THAT IS AN ABILITY THAT WAS USELESS FOR ANYTHING BESIDES MEDICAL TREATMENT.
キュウウウウウ
HRNG!
BUT "DOCTOR BLYTHE" CAN'T MOVE FROM WHERE IT'S ACTIVATED. FOR PITOU, BEING CONNECTED BY HIS TAIL, IS CONFINED TO WITHIN A 20 METER RADIUS OF IT.

THAT RES-TRIC-TION...

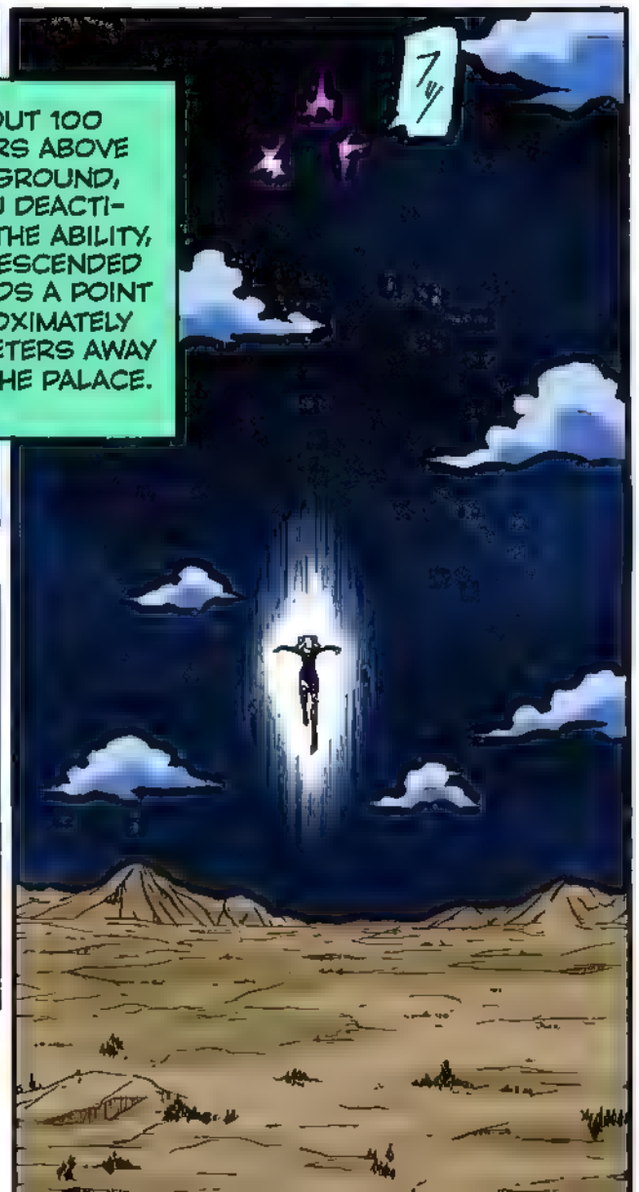
KEPT PITOU IN THE FIGHT.

I'VE STOPPED ...!!

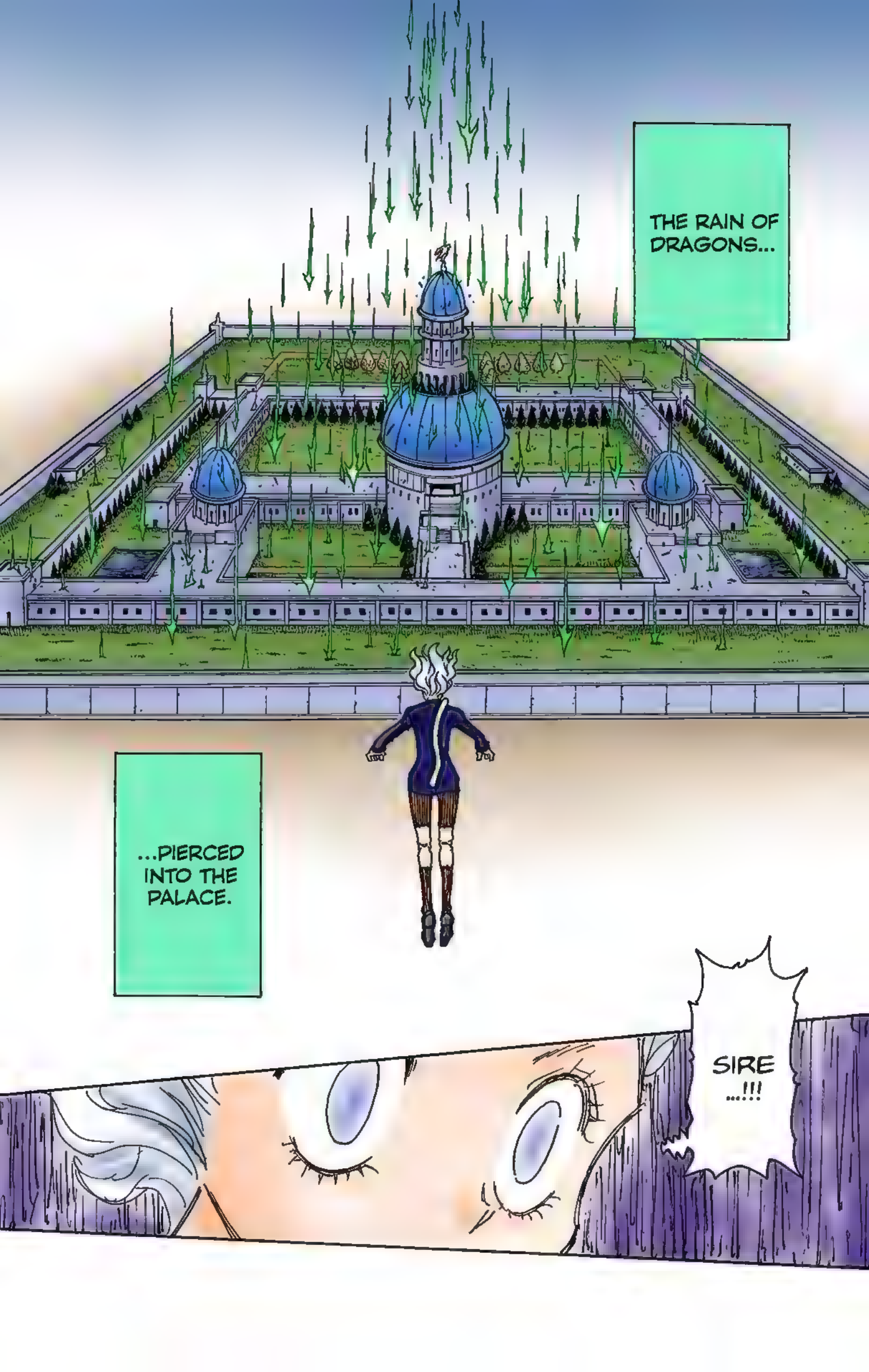


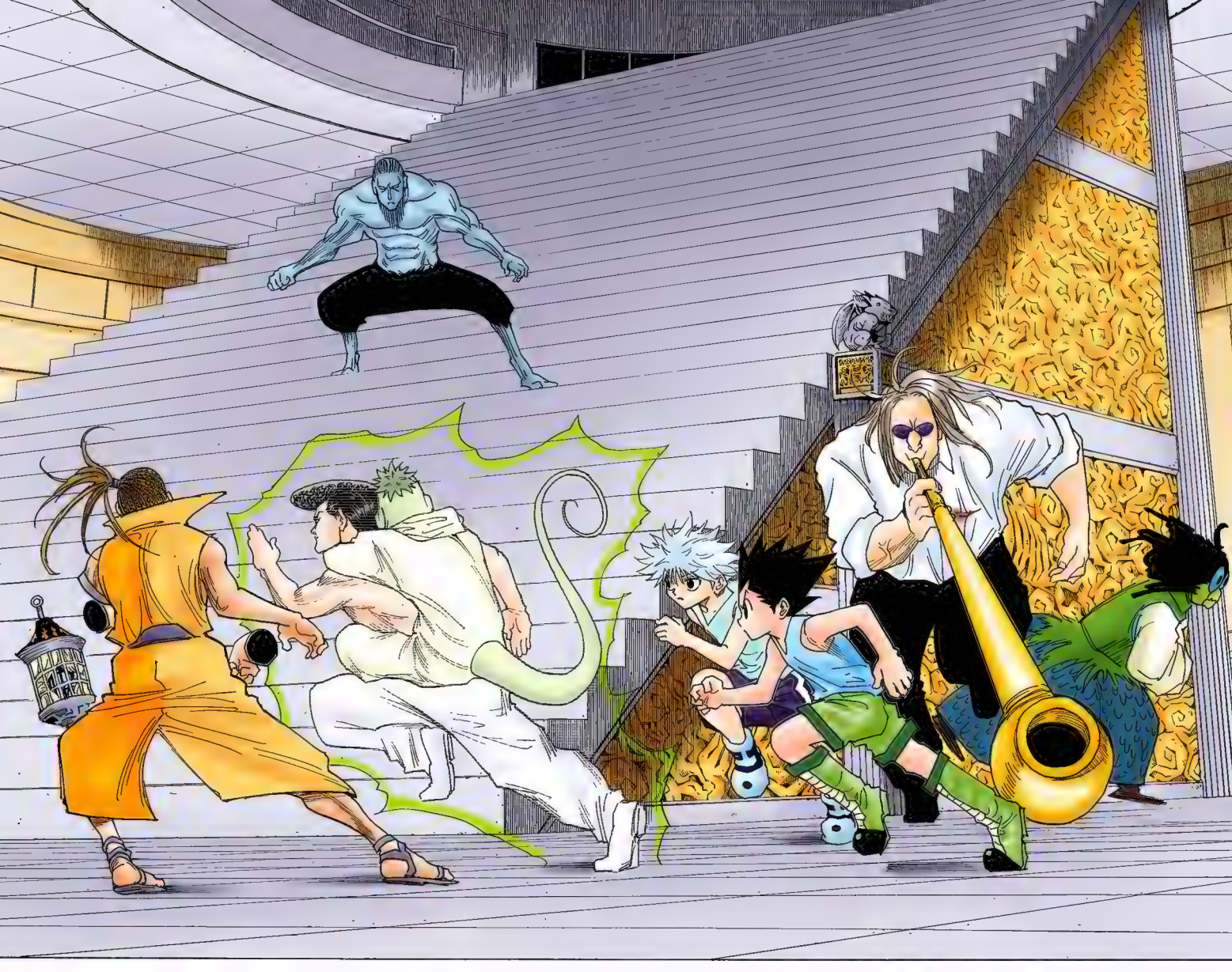


RIGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF THIS FALL, WHICH TO PITOU SEEMED LIKE AN ETERNITY.



ABOUT 100 METERS ABOVE THE GROUND, PITOU DEACTI-VATED THE ABILITY, AND DESCENDED TOWARDS A POINT APPROXIMATELY 500 METERS AWAY FROM THE PALACE.


THE RAIN OF DRAGONS...
...PIERCED INTO THE PALACE.
SIRE ...!!!



DIGITAL
SHUEISHA JUMP COMICS

I KNEW IT!!

KILLUA'S FIRST THOUGHT ONCE ENTERING THE PALACE WAS...

HE SAID TO HIMSELF.

ナンバー
No.266 ◆
「IN THE UNLIKELY EVENT OF...」

INSTEAD OF FEELING PITOU'S *"EN"*, YOUPI, WHO WASN'T SUPPOSED TO BE ON THE FIRST FLOOR, WAS STANDING RIGHT BEFORE THEM, ***"AN IMPLAUSIBLE SITUATION"***...

EVEN FACING THIS, WHICH HAD NEVER EVEN COME UP DURING THEIR PLANNING DISCUSSIONS, EXPERIENCE ENABLED KILLUA TO REMAIN CALM.

WHERE DID THEY COME FROM ?!
WHO ARE THESE GUYS?
YOUPI WAS SIMILARLY FACED WITH AN IMPLAUSIBLE SITUATION.
ミキ
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ミキ
ミキ
ミキ
ミキ
BUT YOUPI SIMPLY STOPPED ALL THOUGHT PROCESSES.

I AM A SHIELD.

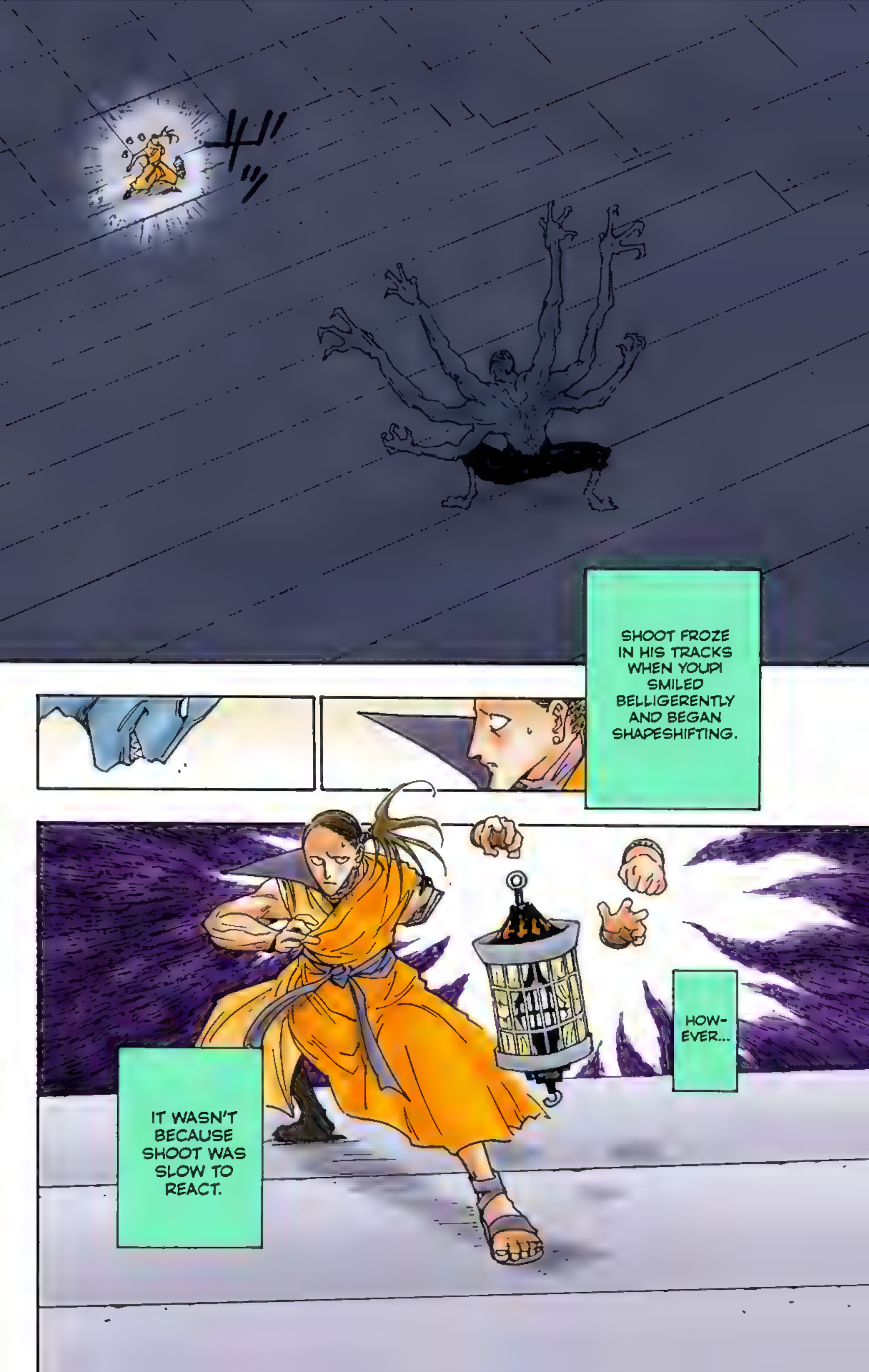
AND CHANGED HIS LOOK.

...WITH MY OWN LIFE.

I'LL PROTECT THE KING...

PERHAPS BECAUSE OF THIS, HE CARED NOT ABOUT HIS IDENTITY AS AN INDIVIDUAL. BUT HIS LACK OF EGO SHOWED INTO STRENGTH.

HE WAS THE ONLY NON-HUMAN HYBRID CHIMERA AMONGST THE ROYAL GUARDS, BEING A MAGICAL BEAST HYBRID INSTEAD.


SHOOT FROZE IN HIS TRACKS WHEN YOUPI SMILED BELLIGERENTLY AND BEGAN SHAPESHIFTING.
IT WASN'T BECAUSE SHOOT WAS SLOW TO REACT.
HOW-EVER...

"IF I MOVE ANY CLOSER, YOUPI WILL STRIKE."

"HIS ATTACK COULD HIT KNUCKLE AND MELEORON, WHO ARE PRESUMABLY AHEAD." HE THOUGHT TO HIMSELF.

AS HE WAS ABOUT TO LET LOOSE HIS FLYING HANDS AND CAGE TO ATTRACT YOUPI'S ATTENTION TO HIMSELF...

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HIS FRIENDS WITH THE OLD GEEZER ...?!!

IS THIS GRAMP'S "DRAGON DIVE"?!!

THE SHOCK FOR THE OTHERS, BEING IGNORANT, WAS MUCH GREATER.

ONLY KILLUA UNDERSTOOD WHAT WAS HAPPENING, AND IT MOMENTARILY FROZE HIM.

ONLY TWO OF THOSE PRESENT...

GON...
...AND YOUPI.
THEY THOUGHT OF NOTHING BUT THE ENEMY THAT FACED THEM.

YOUR OPPONENT ISN'T YOUPI, YOU KNOW?!

HAS HE LOST IT?!

WHAT THE?!!

HOLD ON!!

...!

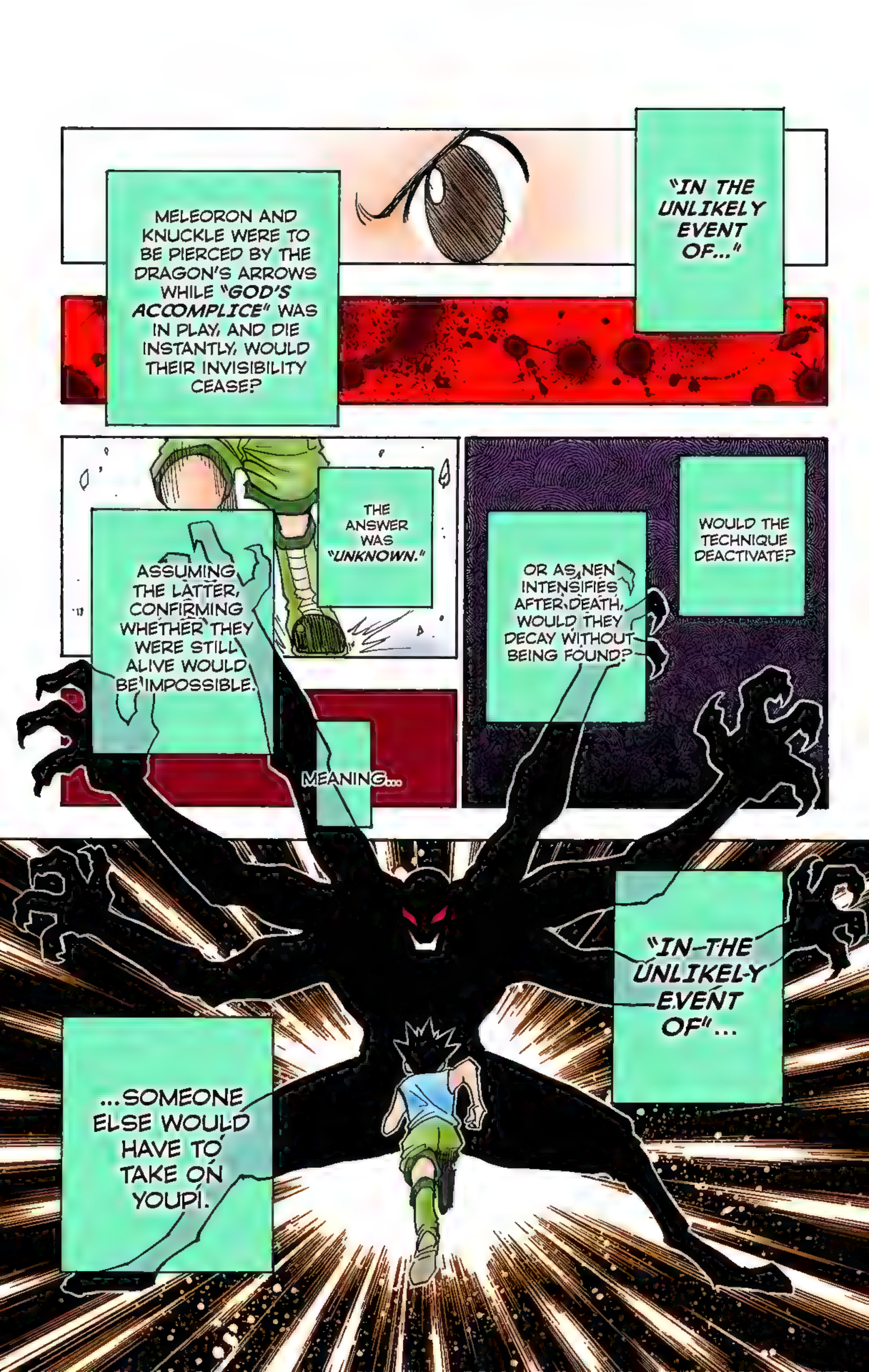
NO ...!!

THE REALIZATION CAME A MOMENT LATER TO KILLUA.

AND FOR THE OTHERS, A FEW MOMENTS LATER.

IT WAS SO FAST!! OUT OF ALL PLACES!!

SERIOUSLY, HE QUICKLY NOTICED IN THIS SITUATION ...!!


MELEORON AND KNUCKLE WERE TO BE PIERCED BY THE DRAGON'S ARROWS WHILE "GOD'S ACCOMPLICE" WAS IN PLAY, AND DIE INSTANTLY, WOULD THEIR INVISIBILITY CEASE?
"IN THE UNLIKELY EVENT OF..."
THE ANSWER WAS "UNKNOWN."
ASSUMING THE LATTER, CONFIRMING WHETHER THEY WERE STILL ALIVE WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE.
WOULD THE TECHNIQUE DEACTIVATE?
OR AS NEN INTENSIFIES AFTER DEATH, WOULD THEY DECAY WITHOUT BEING FOUND?
MEANING...
"IN THE UNLIKELY EVENT OF"...
...SOMEONE ELSE WOULD HAVE TO TAKE ON YOUPI.

EVEN I REALIZED IT AFTER KILLUA...!

IT'S NOT SHOOT'S FAULT!!

IF GON AND KILLUA ARE TAKING YOUPI, YOU'LL HAVE TO TAKE ON PITOU!!

SHOOT!! DON'T BLAME YOURSELF!! PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER!!

...A DIFFERENT EMOTION AT THE MOMENT.

HOWEVER, SHOOT WAS FEELING...

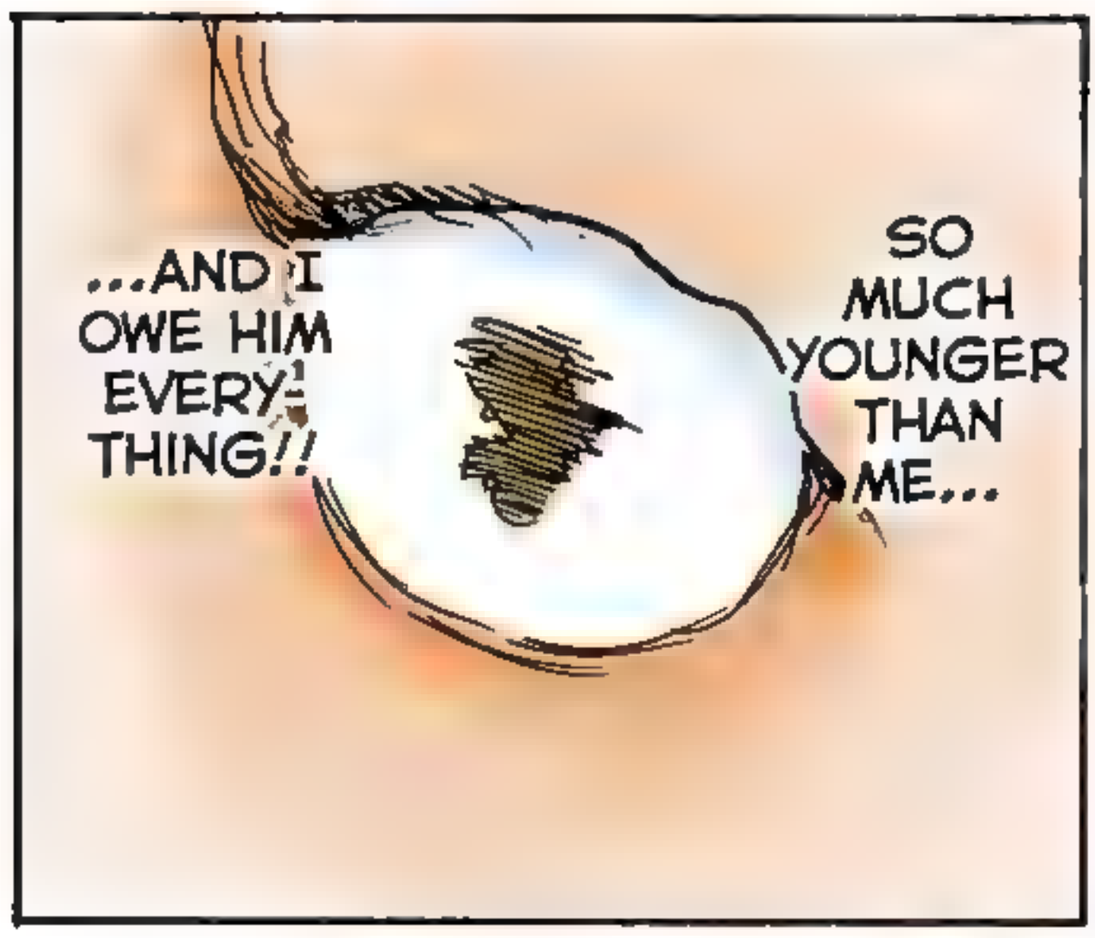
GON...!!

THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE MY JOB...!!

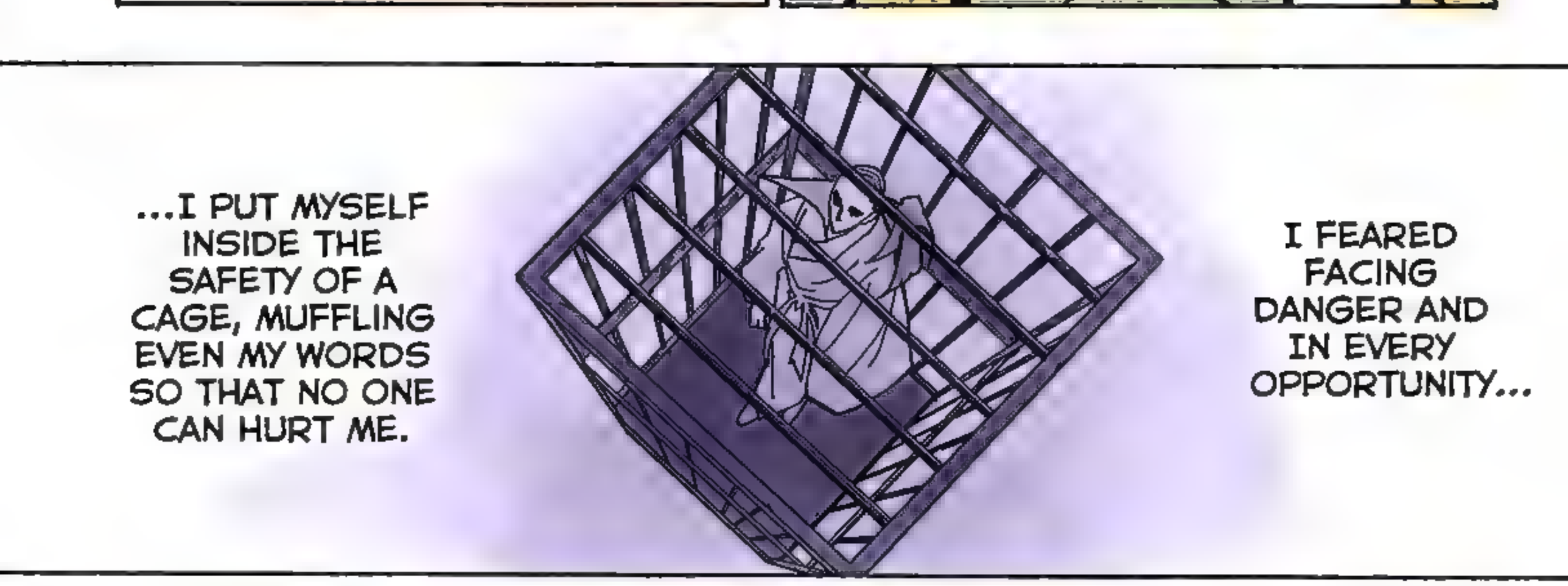
...HE WAS MOVED WITH ADMIRATION !!!!

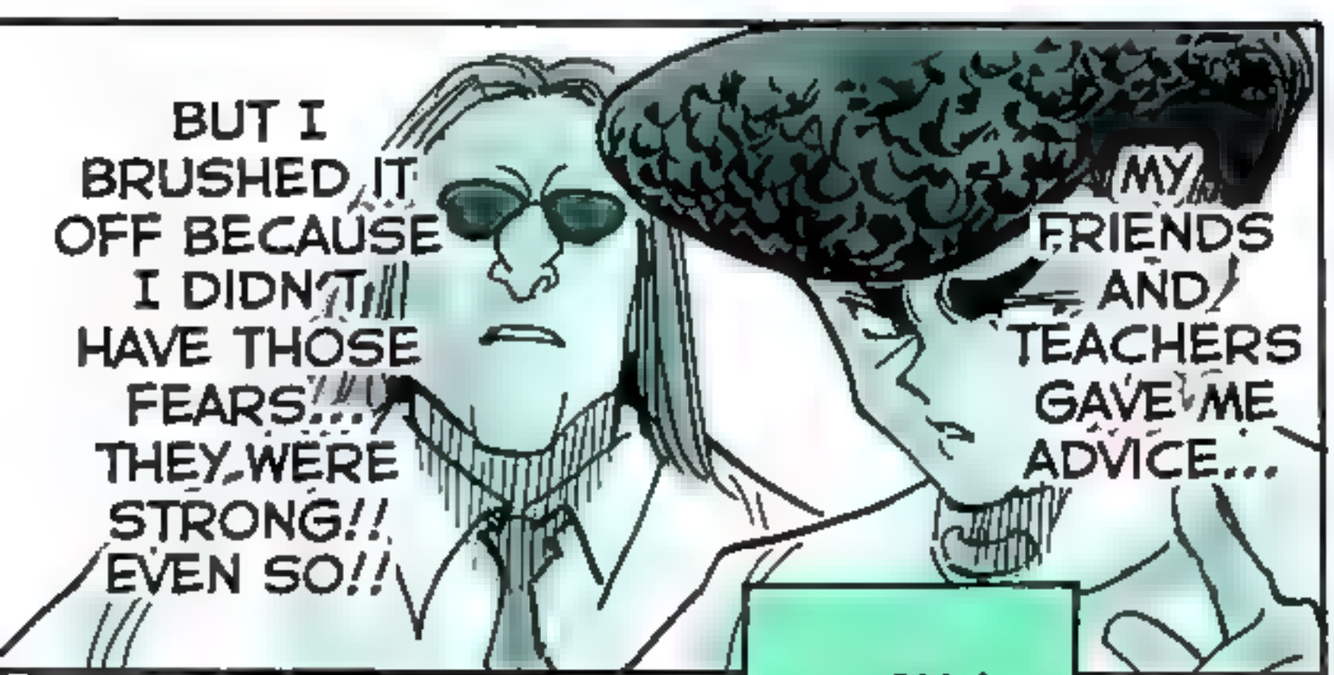
GON!!!

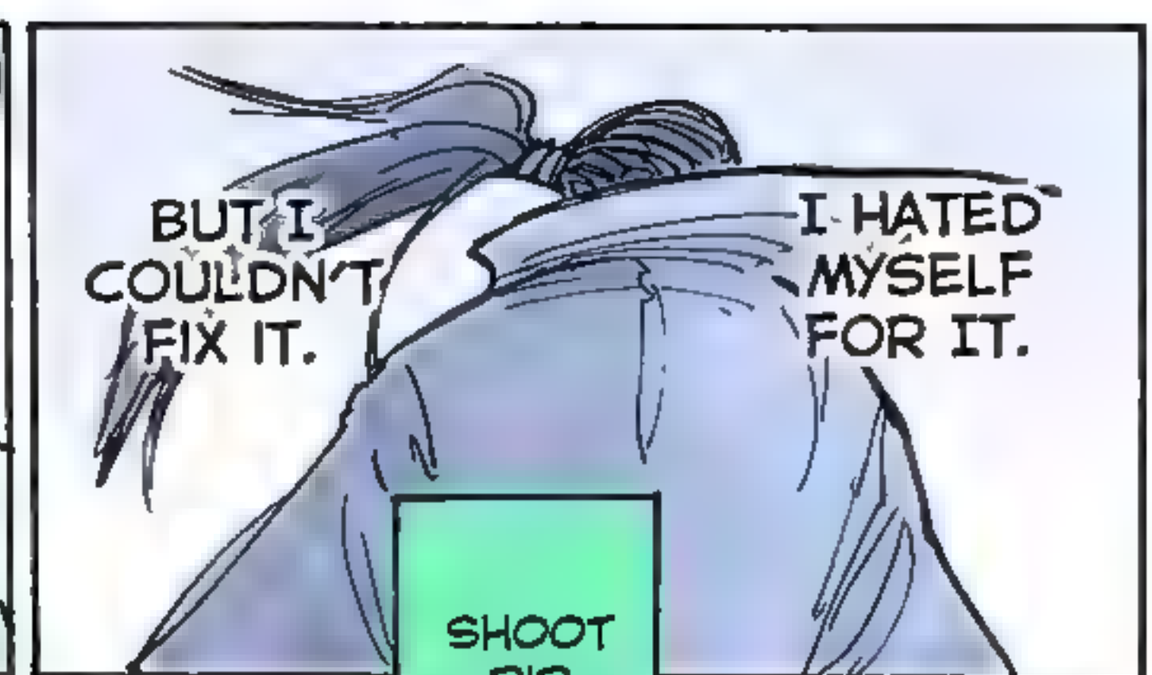
TO THE POINT THAT HE WANTED TO CRY AND SCREAM OUT LOUD...


...AND I OWE HIM EVERY-THING!!
SO MUCH YOUNGER THAN ME...

THAT THIS IS GON!!
I WANT TO SCREAM OUT TO THE ENTIRE WORLD!!


...I PUT MYSELF INSIDE THE SAFETY OF A CAGE, MUFFLING EVEN MY WORDS SO THAT NO ONE CAN HURT ME.
I FEARED FACING DANGER AND IN EVERY OPPORTUNITY...


BUT I BRUSHED IT OFF BECAUSE I DIDN'T HAVE THOSE FEARS... THEY WERE STRONG!! EVEN SO!!
MY FRIENDS AND TEACHERS GAVE ME ADVICE...


BUT I COULDN'T FIX IT.
I HATED MYSELF FOR IT.

...SHY AWAY FROM EVERY-THING.
SHOOT DID INDEED...
GON, YOU MANAGED TO BREAK ME OUT OF MY CAGE!!
A BOY THAT'S WEAKER THAN ME...

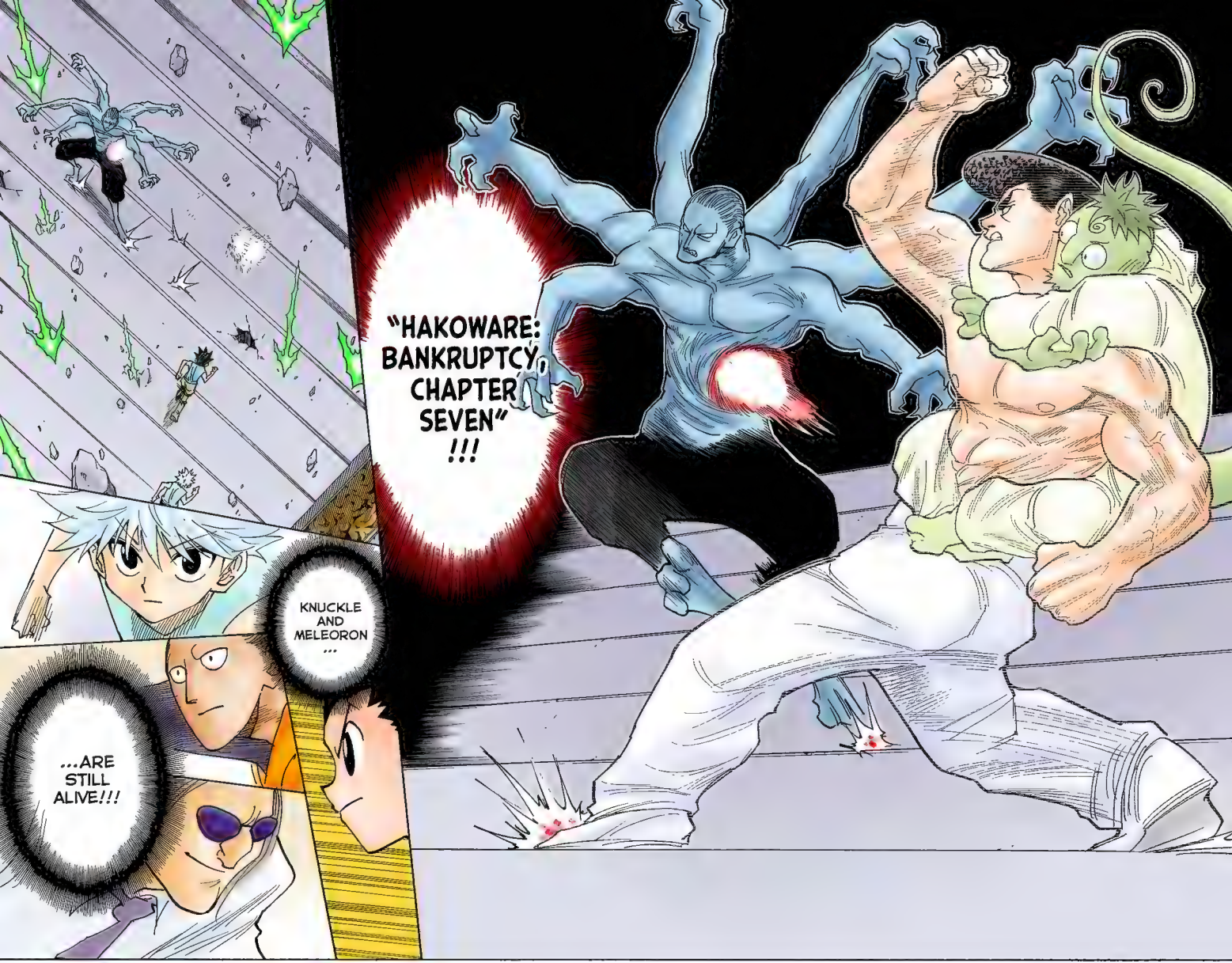
SO I CAN THANK YOU!!

I WILL SURVIVE THIS!!

...WHEN HE FACED ADVERSITY.

BUT HE DIDN'T REALIZE HE CAME INTO HIS OWN...

GOOD !!!


"HAKOWARE: BANKRUPTCY, CHAPTER SEVEN" !!!
KNUCKLE AND MELEORON ...
...ARE STILL ALIVE!!!

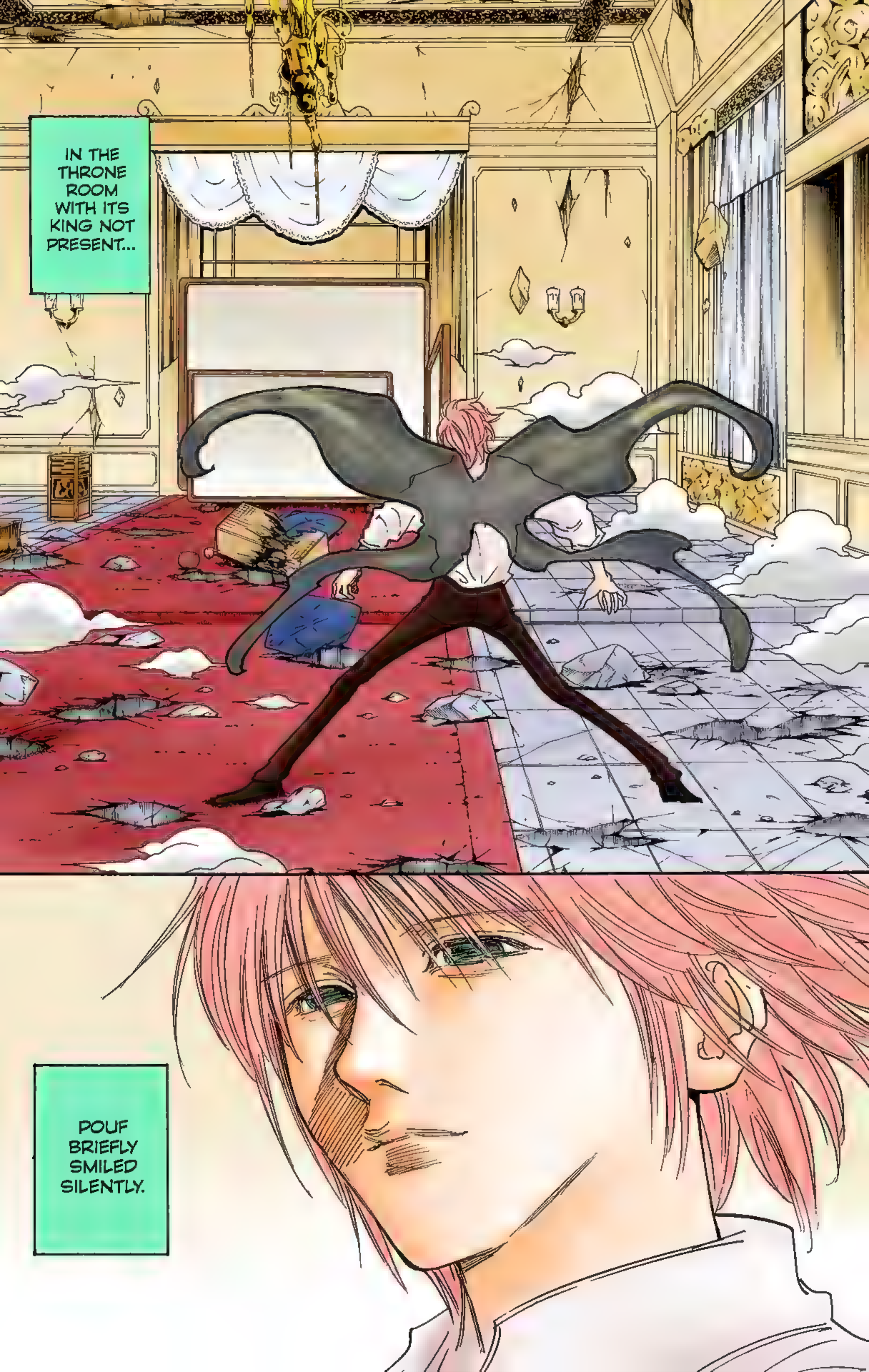
SIRE !!!

SIREEE

AH

HA...

AMIDST THE DREADFUL QUAKING AND THE THUNDEROUS ROAR OF THE COLLAPSING STAIRCASE...


IN THE THRONE ROOM WITH ITS KING NOT PRESENT...
POUF BRIEFLY SMILED SILENTLY.

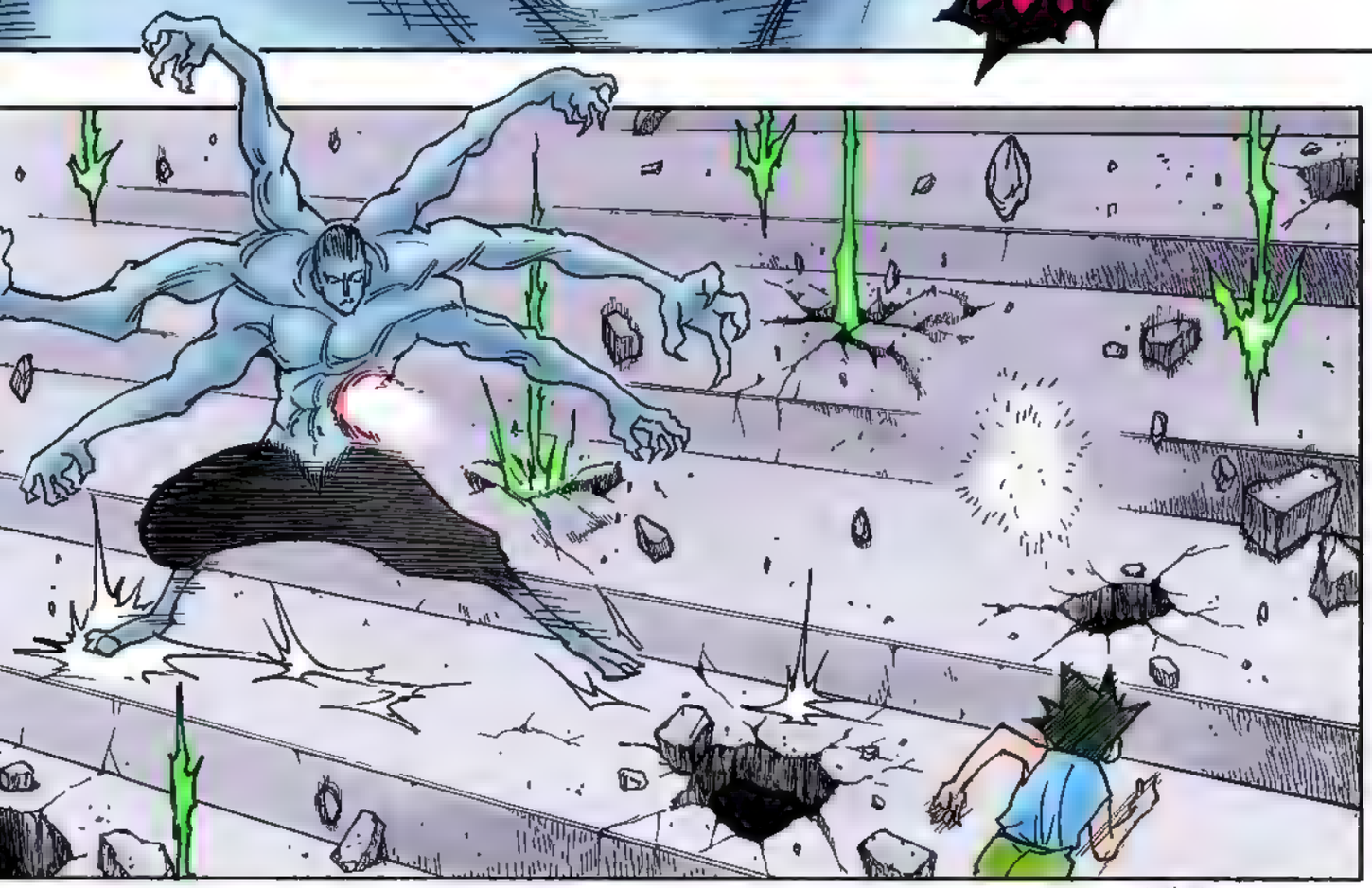
DIGITAL
SHUEISHA JUMP COMICS

No.267 ◆ ACTIVATION

WHAT ?!

!?

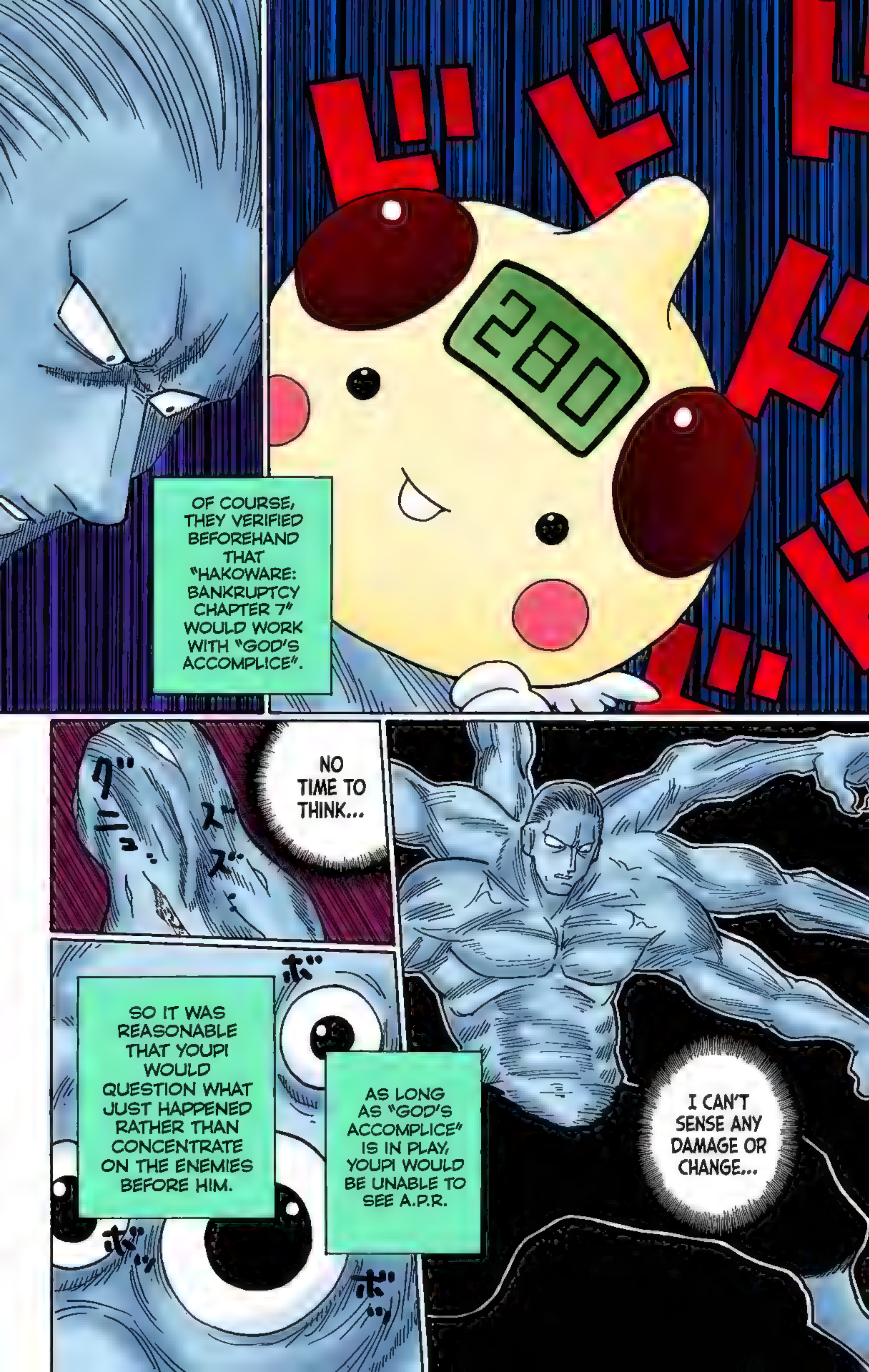
!??



I DIDN'T SEE IT!! DID THEY THROW SOMETHING?! WAS IT IN MY BLIND SPOT?!

WHO WAS IT?! WHO JUST ATTACKED ME?!

No.267 ◆ ACTIVATION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OF COURSE, THEY VERIFIED BEFOREHAND THAT "HAKOWARE: BANKRUPTCY CHAPTER 7" WOULD WORK WITH "GOD'S ACCOMPLICE".
280
I CAN'T SENSE ANY DAMAGE OR CHANGE...
NO TIME TO THINK...
グニュ
ズズ
AS LONG AS "GOD'S ACCOMPLICE" IS IN PLAY, YOUPI WOULD BE UNABLE TO SEE A.P.R.
SO IT WAS REASONABLE THAT YOUPI WOULD QUESTION WHAT JUST HAPPENED RATHER THAN CONCENTRATE ON THE ENEMIES BEFORE HIM.
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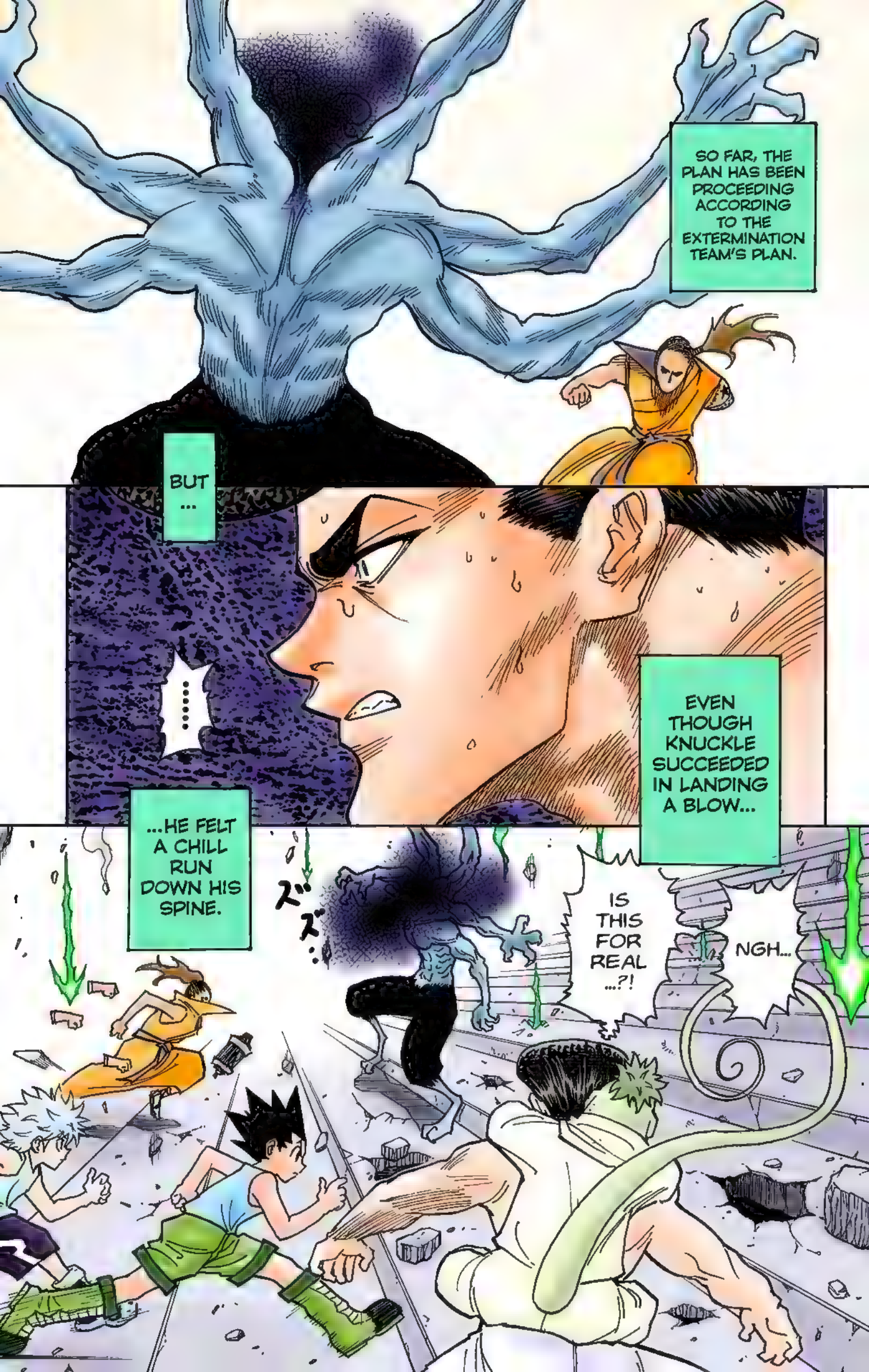
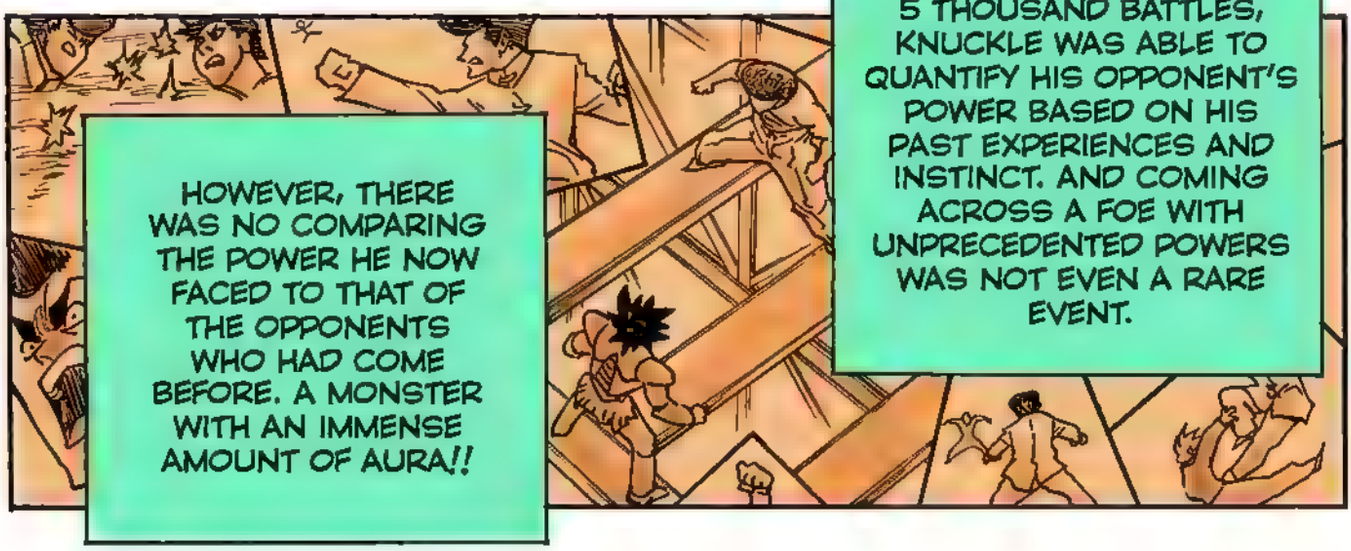
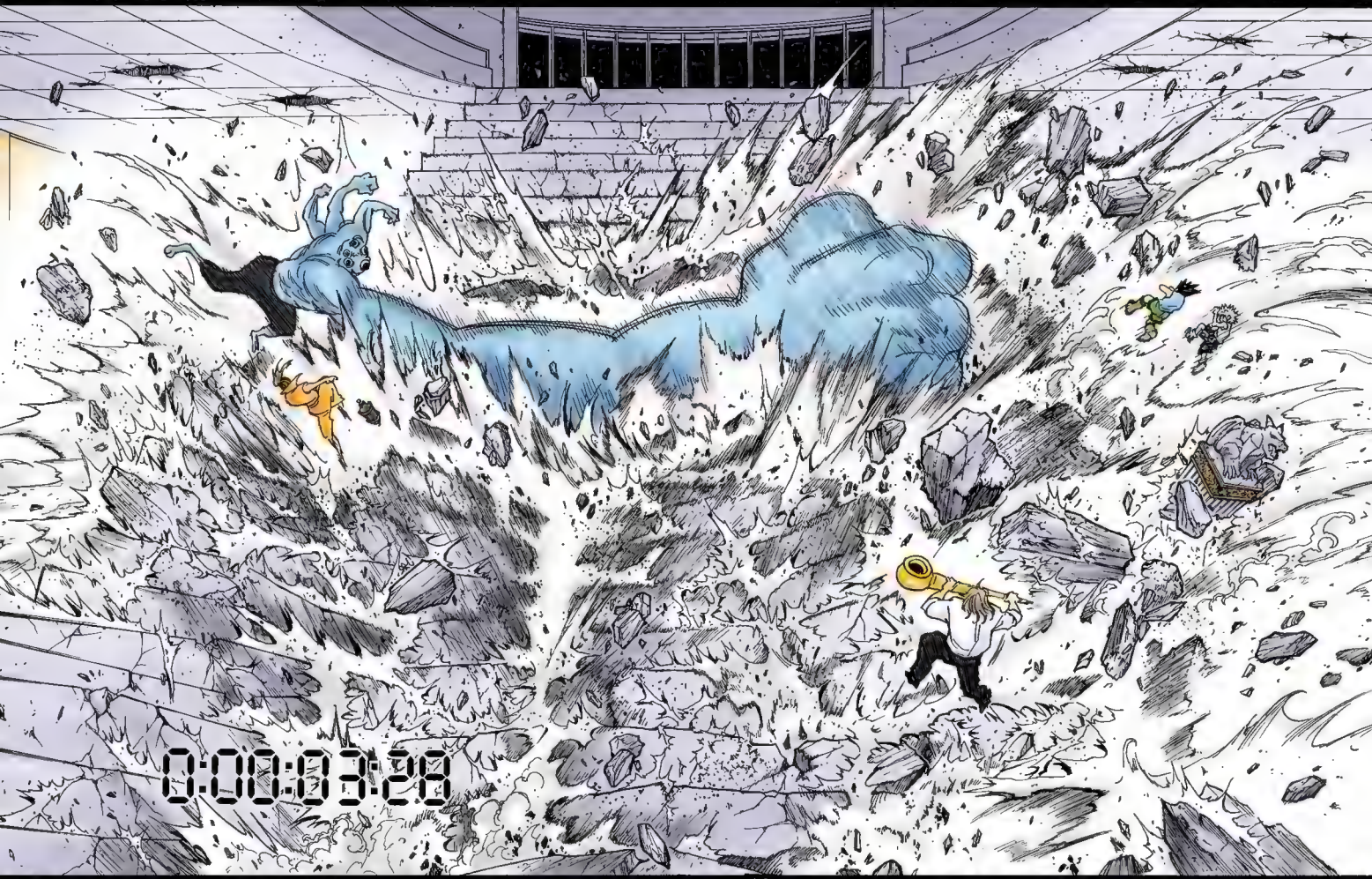

SO FAR, THE PLAN HAS BEEN PROCEEDING ACCORDING TO THE EXTERMINATION TEAM'S PLAN.
BUT ...
.....
EVEN THOUGH KNUCKLE SUCCEEDED IN LANDING A BLOW...
...HE FELT A CHILL RUN DOWN HIS SPINE.
ズズ
IS THIS FOR REAL ...?!
NGH...

...IT'S UNLIMITED !!!
HIS AURA...


HOWEVER, THERE WAS NO COMPARING THE POWER HE NOW FACED TO THAT OF THE OPPONENTS WHO HAD COME BEFORE. A MONSTER WITH AN IMMENSE AMOUNT OF AURA!!
A VETERAN OF OVER 5 THOUSAND BATTLES, KNUCKLE WAS ABLE TO QUANTIFY HIS OPPONENT'S POWER BASED ON HIS PAST EXPERIENCES AND INSTINCT. AND COMING ACROSS A FOE WITH UNPRECEDENTED POWERS WAS NOT EVEN A RARE EVENT.

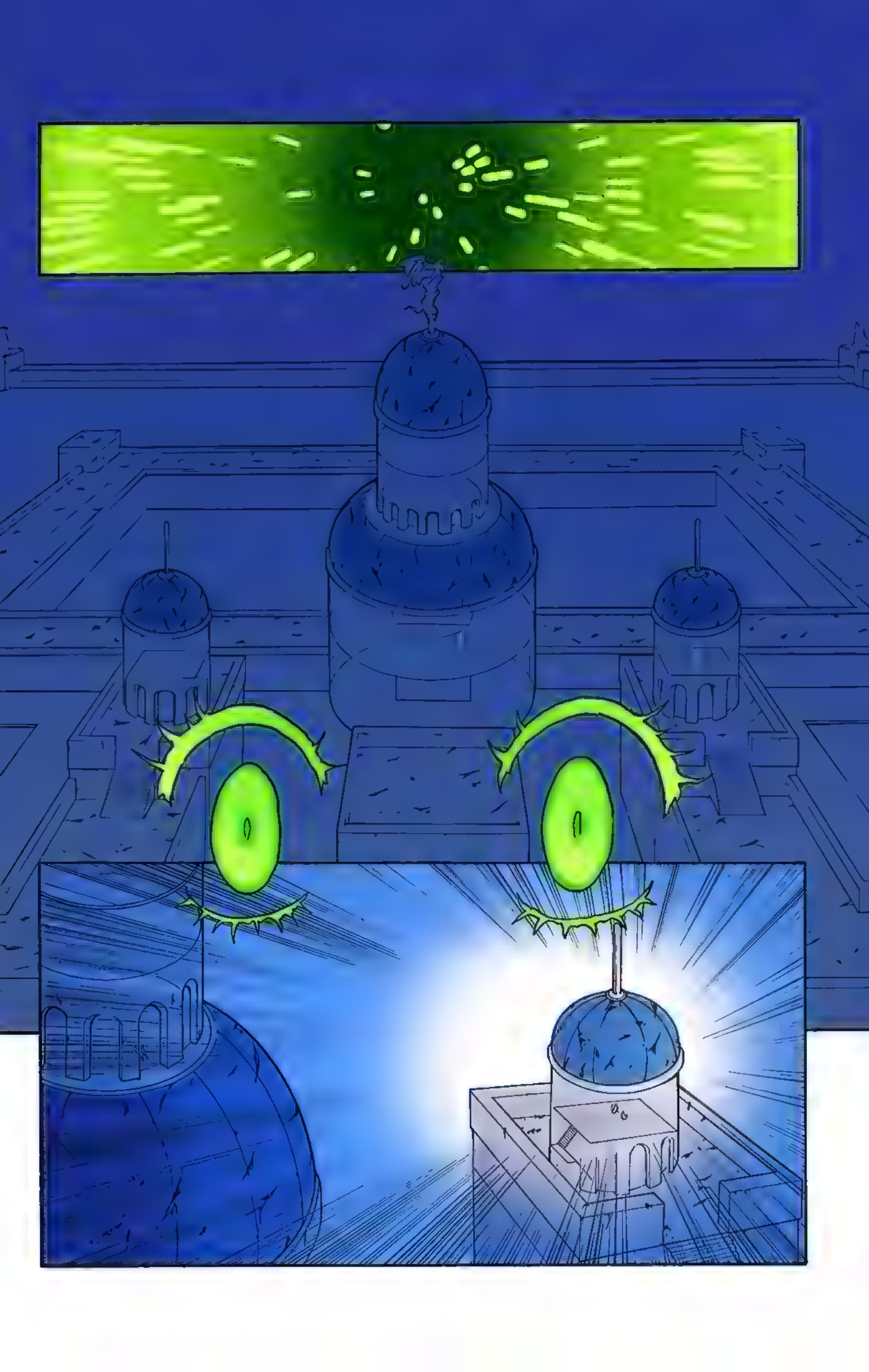
HE HAD NEVER GONE THROUGH ANYTHING LIKE THIS.
I CAN'T TELL...
HE'S 5 TIMES THAT OF MOREL?! 10 TIMES...?! MORE?!!
HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE BEFORE HE GOES BANKRUPT...
I SAY HE'S 10 TIMES STRONGER, WITH AN AURA OF 700,000...
JUST THEN...
...THE EXTERMI-NATION TEAM FELT PITOU'S OMINOUS AURA ENVELOP THEM ALL.
THEIR MOMEN-TARY HESI-TATION...
...WAS NOT OVER-LOOKED BY YOUPI.

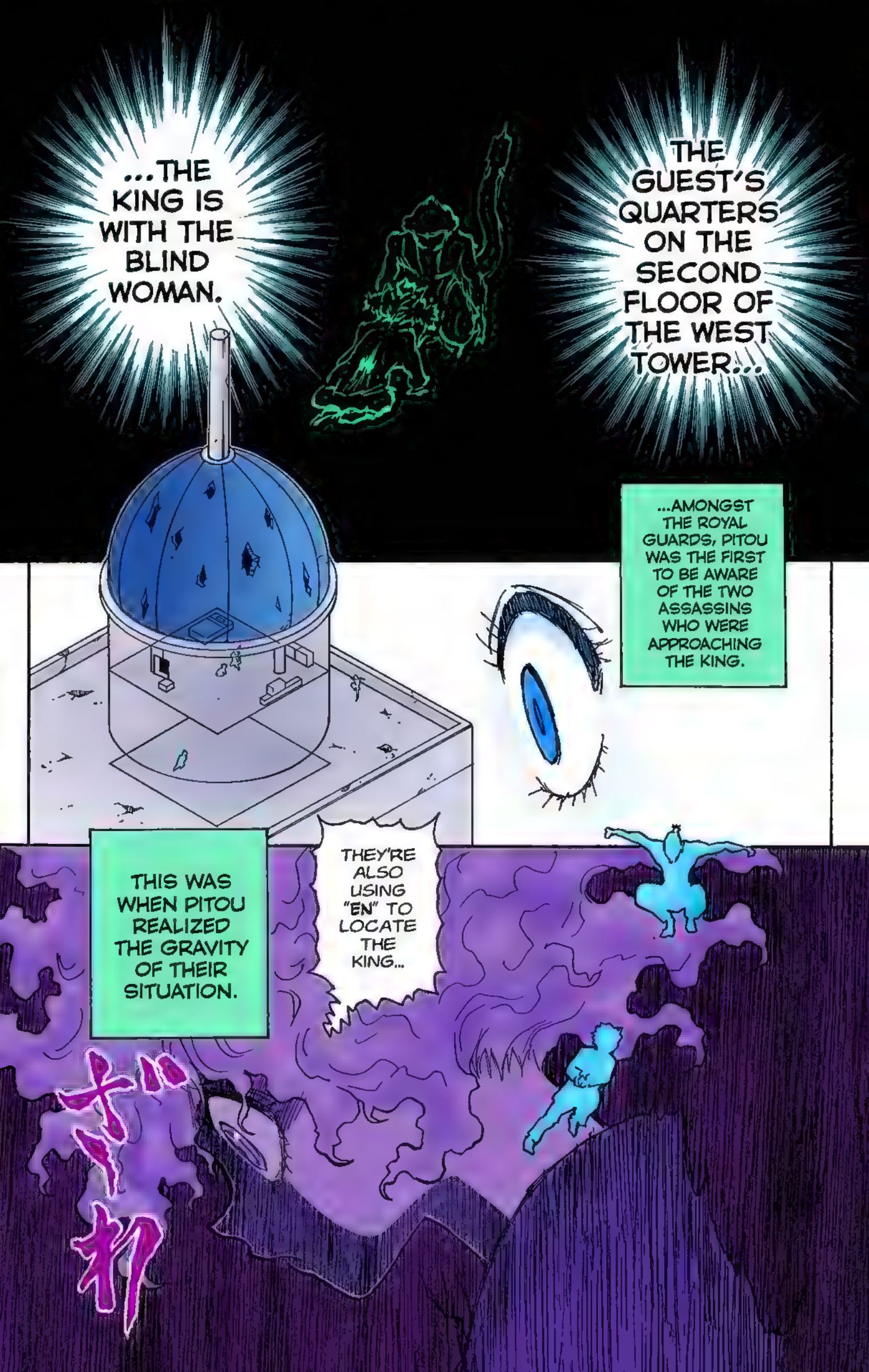

0:00:03:28

THE MOMENT THE RAIN OF DRAGONS PIERCED THE PALACE...
THE KING...

SINCE PITOU LACKED WINGS, THE ONLY OPTION FOR HIM WAS TO DROP STRAIGHT DOWN. BUT THIS MAY HAVE BEEN FORTUNATE.
...PITOU USED HIS "EN" AS A REFLEX.
IF HE HAD THE CHOICE, PITOU WOULD HAVE RUSHED STRAIGHT TOWARDS THE KING, AS POUF DID, A ROYAL GUARD'S NATURAL REACTION. IN THAT SCENARIO, IT'S UNLIKELY THAT PITOU WOULD HAVE HAD THE PRESENCE OF MIND TO USE "EN."

AS A RESULT...




...THE KING IS WITH THE BLIND WOMAN.
THE GUEST'S QUARTERS ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE WEST TOWER...
...AMONGST THE ROYAL GUARDS, PITOU WAS THE FIRST TO BE AWARE OF THE TWO ASSASSINS WHO WERE APPROACHING THE KING.
THIS WAS WHEN PITOU REALIZED THE GRAVITY OF THEIR SITUATION.
THEY'RE ALSO USING "EN" TO LOCATE THE KING...

IN THAT INSTANT, PITOU CROUCHED LIKE HIS FOUR-LEGGED ANCESTORS OF ANT ORIGIN...

WITH HIS UPPER LEGS, HARD AS STEEL SWELLED TO TWICE THE SIZE AS THEY'D BEEN WHEN HE ATTACKED KITE.

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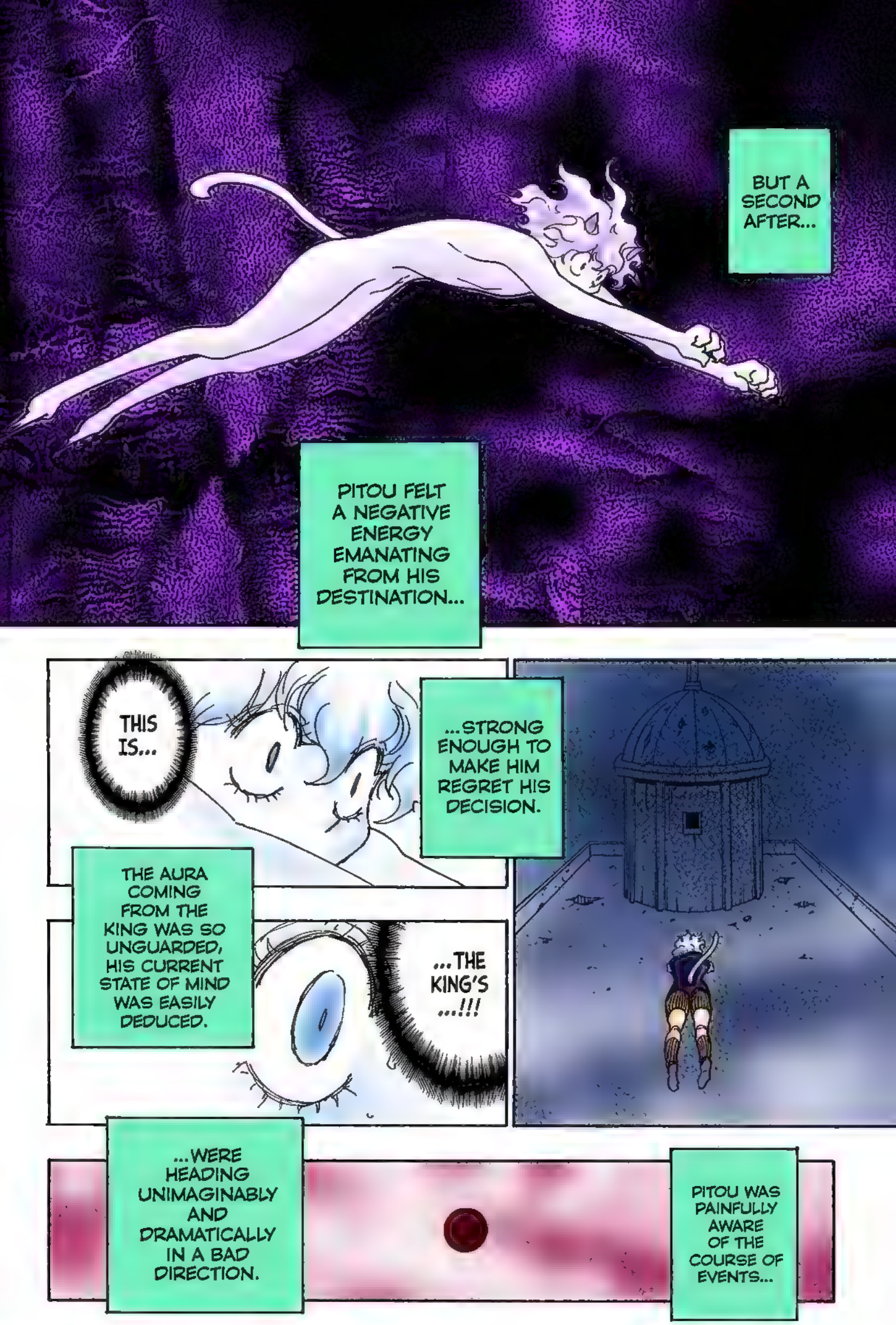
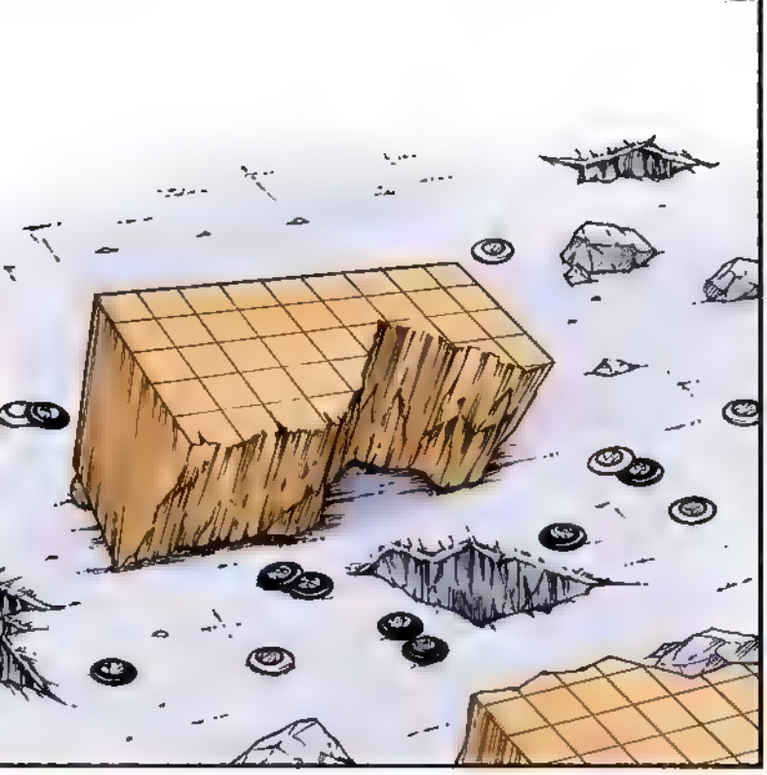
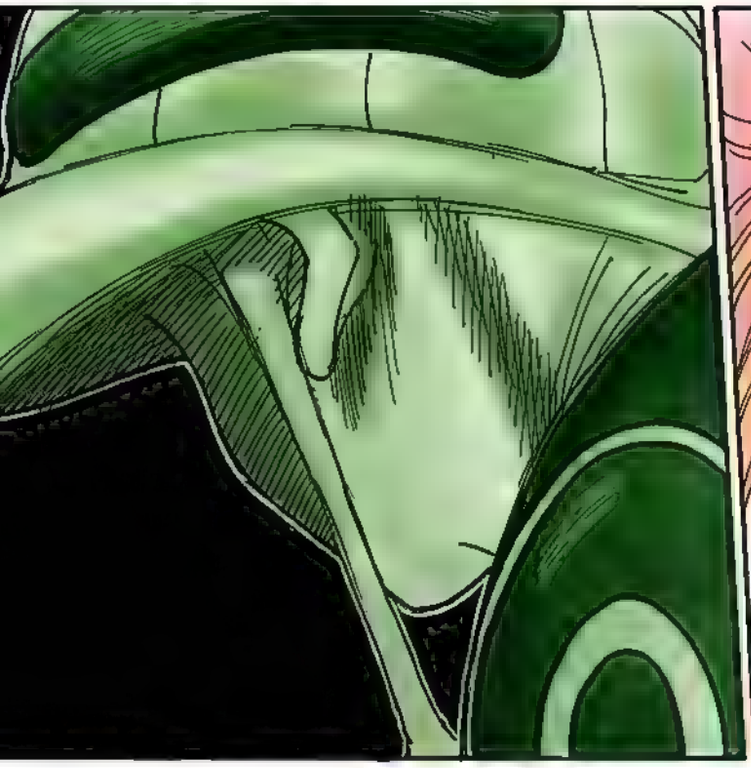
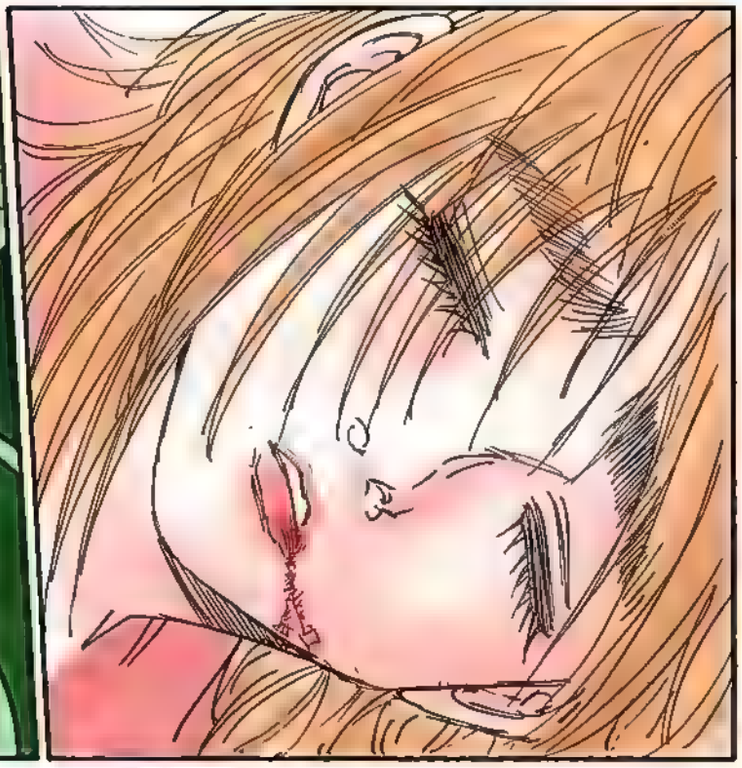
MOVED WITH SPEED!!!
IN ORDER TO REACH THE KING BEFORE THE INTRUDERS COULD...


BUT A SECOND AFTER...
PITOU FELT A NEGATIVE ENERGY EMANATING FROM HIS DESTINATION...
THIS IS...
...STRONG ENOUGH TO MAKE HIM REGRET HIS DECISION.
THE AURA COMING FROM THE KING WAS SO UNGUARDED, HIS CURRENT STATE OF MIND WAS EASILY DEDUCED.
...THE KING'S ...!!!
...WERE HEADING UNIMAGINABLY AND DRAMATICALLY IN A BAD DIRECTION.
PITOU WAS PAINFULLY AWARE OF THE COURSE OF EVENTS...







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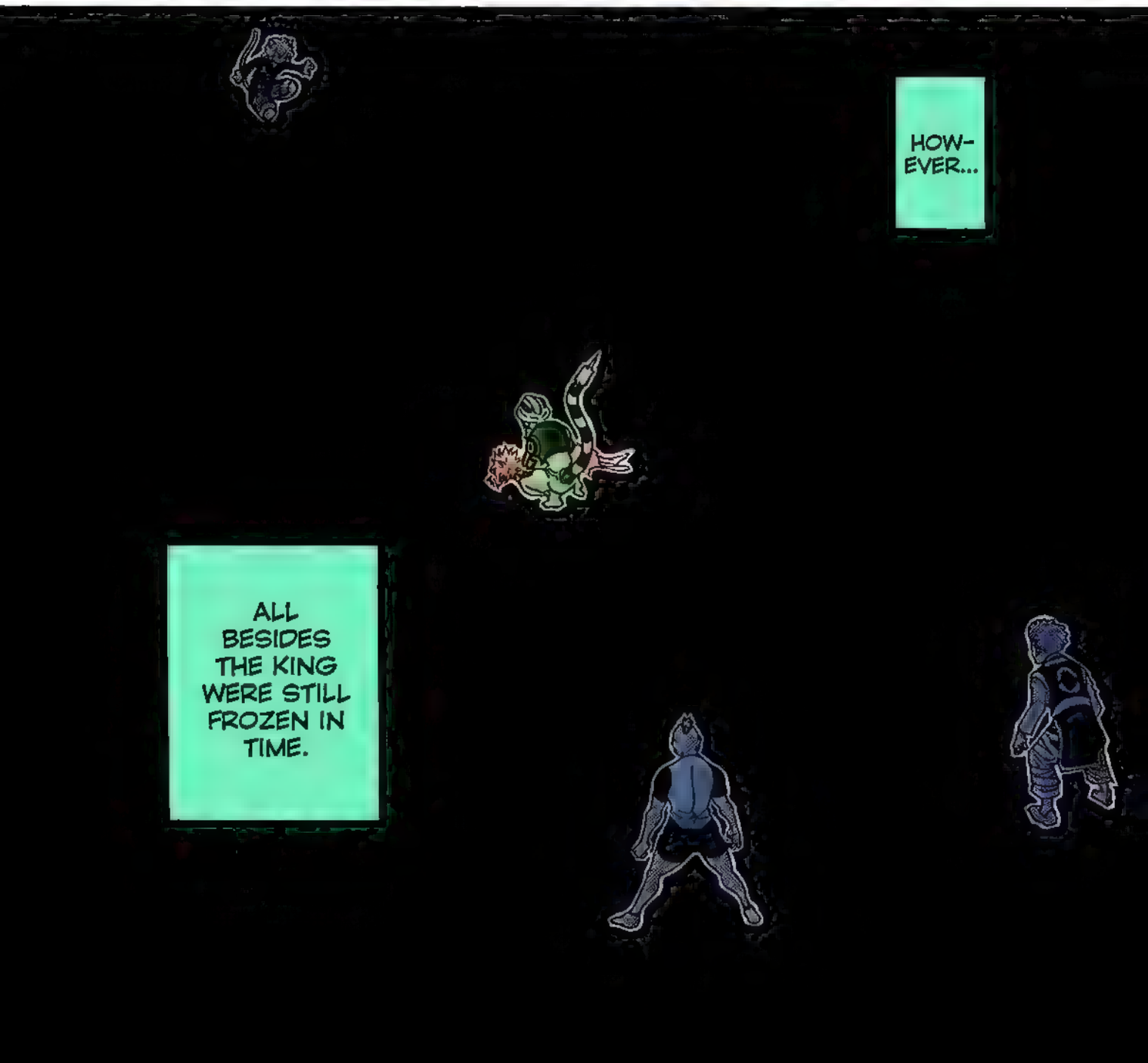
THE CENTRAL STAIRCASE COLLAPSED.

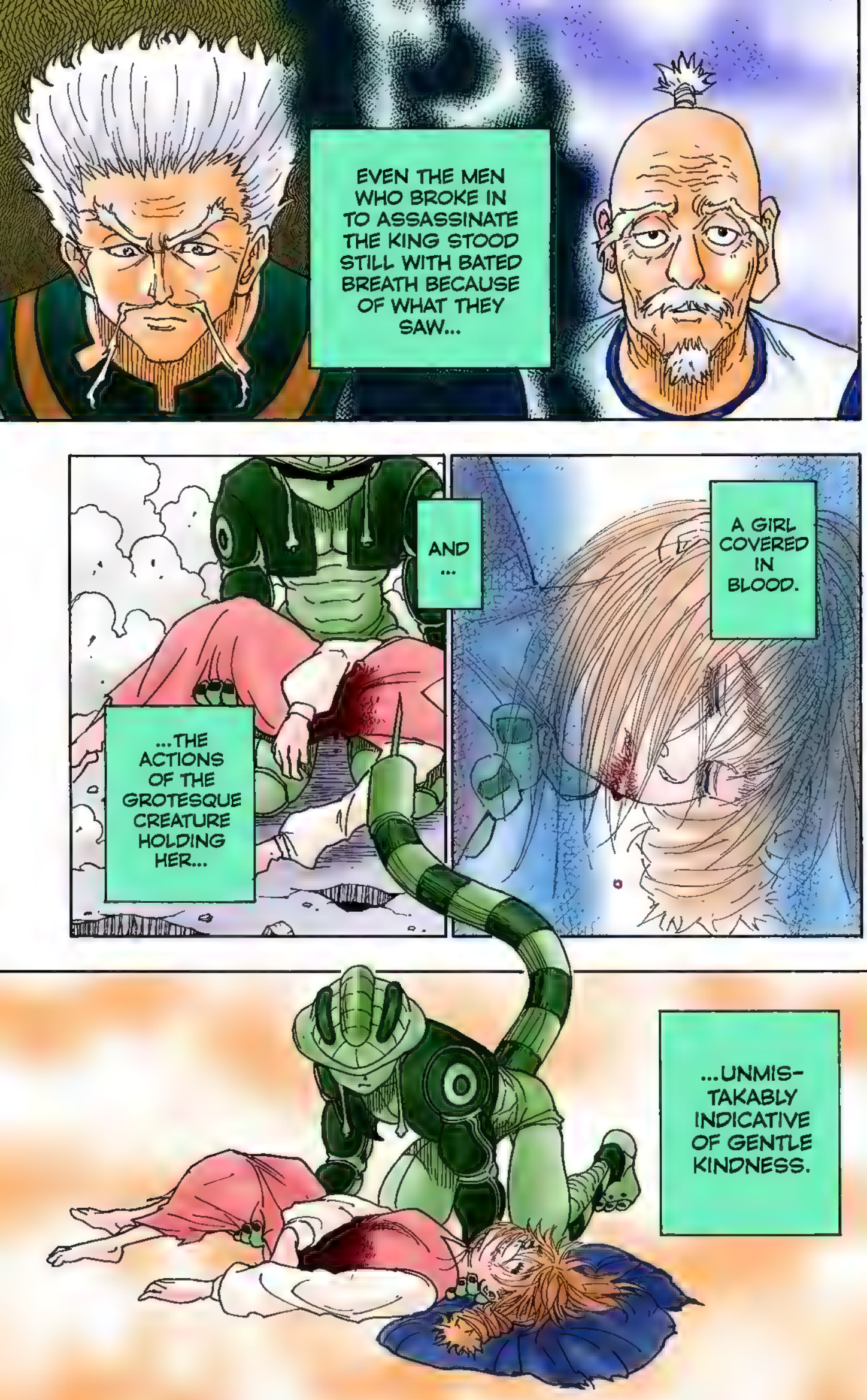
DIGITAL
SHUEISHA JUMP COMICS

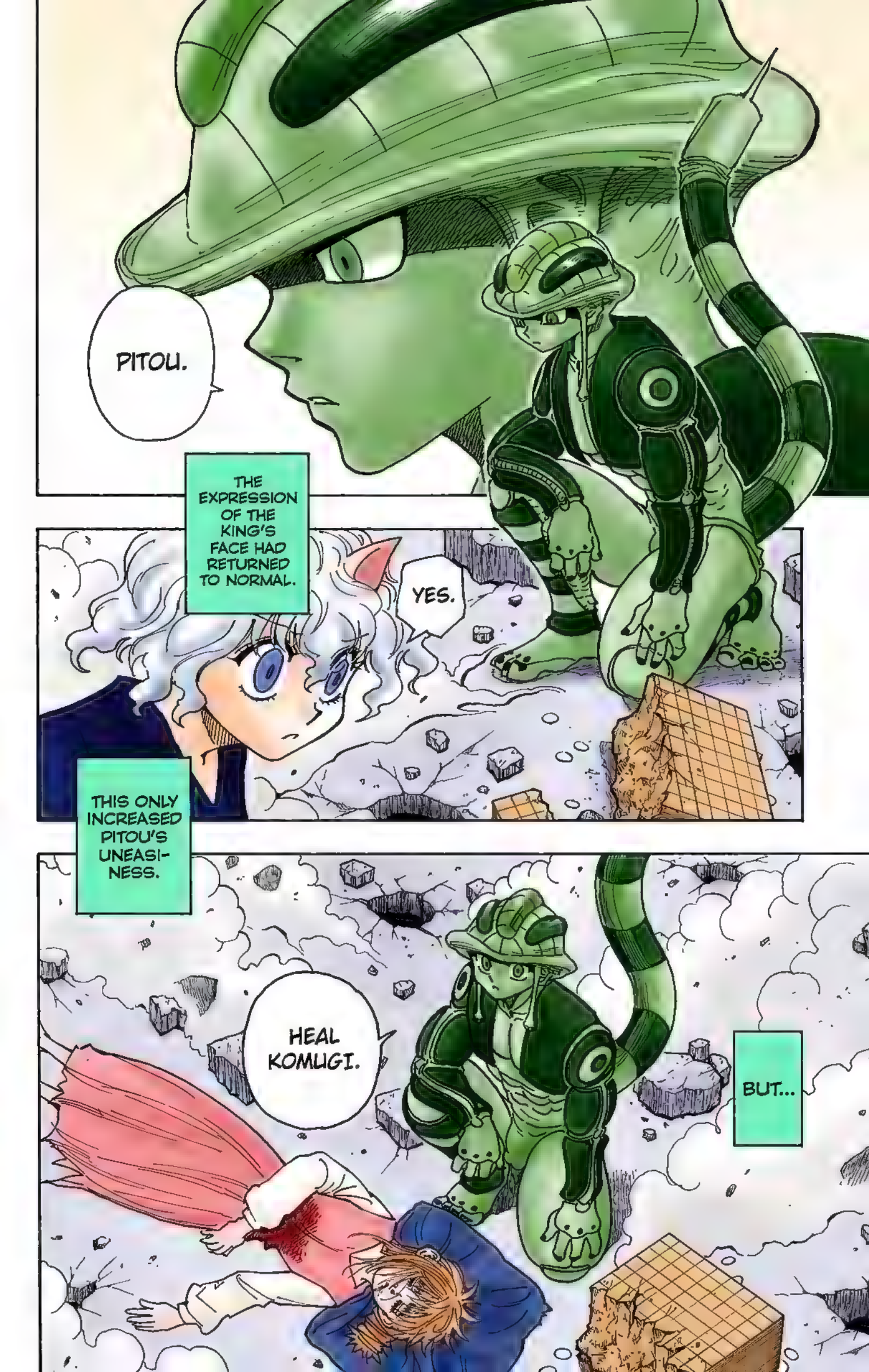
No.268 ◆ THE KING

No.268◆THE KING

TIME STARTED MOVING AGAIN WHEN THE KING LOOKED AWAY.


HOW-EVER...
ALL BESIDES THE KING WERE STILL FROZEN IN TIME.


EVEN THE MEN WHO BROKE IN TO ASSASSINATE THE KING STOOD STILL WITH BATED BREATH BECAUSE OF WHAT THEY SAW...
AND ...
A GIRL COVERED IN BLOOD.
...THE ACTIONS OF THE GROTESQUE CREATURE HOLDING HER...
...UNMIS-TAKABLY INDICATIVE OF GENTLE KINDNESS.


PITOU.
THE EXPRESSION OF THE KING'S FACE HAD RETURNED TO NORMAL.
YES.
THIS ONLY INCREASED PITOU'S UNEASI-NESS.
HEAL KOMUGI.
BUT...

I'M COUNTING ON YOU.

FOR THE KING...

PITOU DIDN'T UNDERSTAND THE TEARS ON HIS CHEEKS.

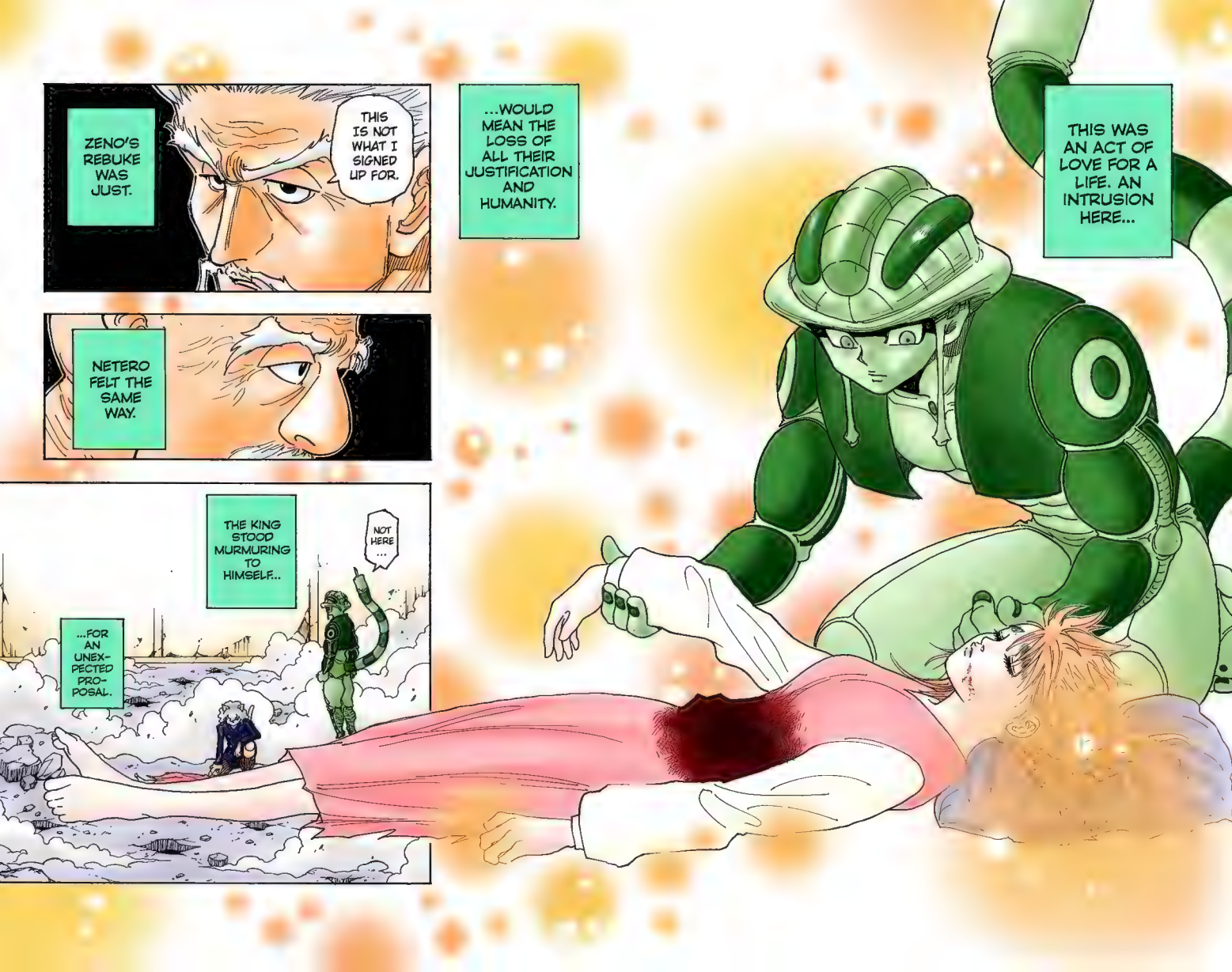
PITOU'S BODY QUIVERED WITH JOY.

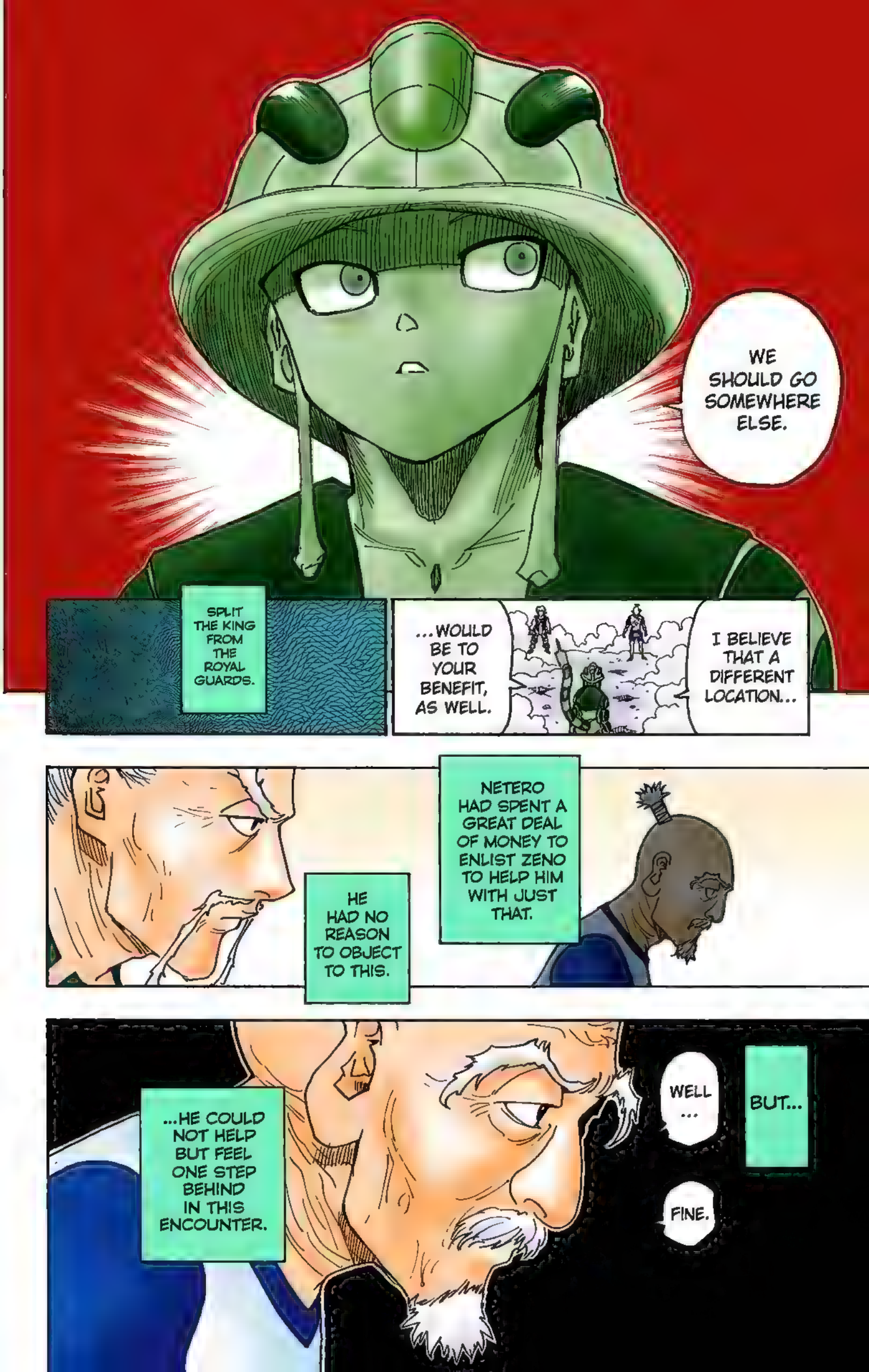
PITOU SPRANG IN AN INSTANT.

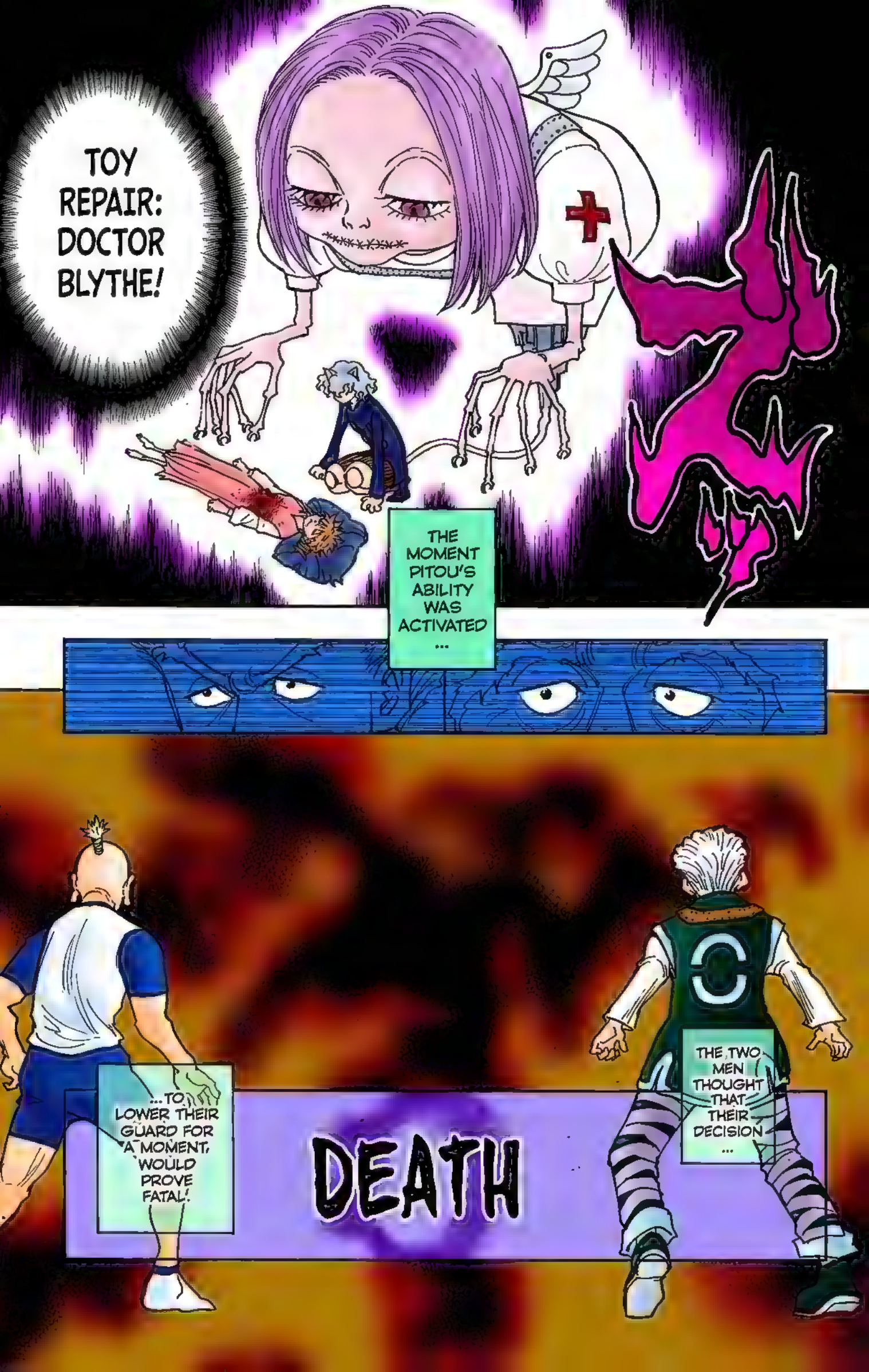
HIS IMPERIAL TONE WAS EXTRAORDINARILY FULL OF A COMMANDING TONE.

...AS AN EXPRESSION OF RESPECT.

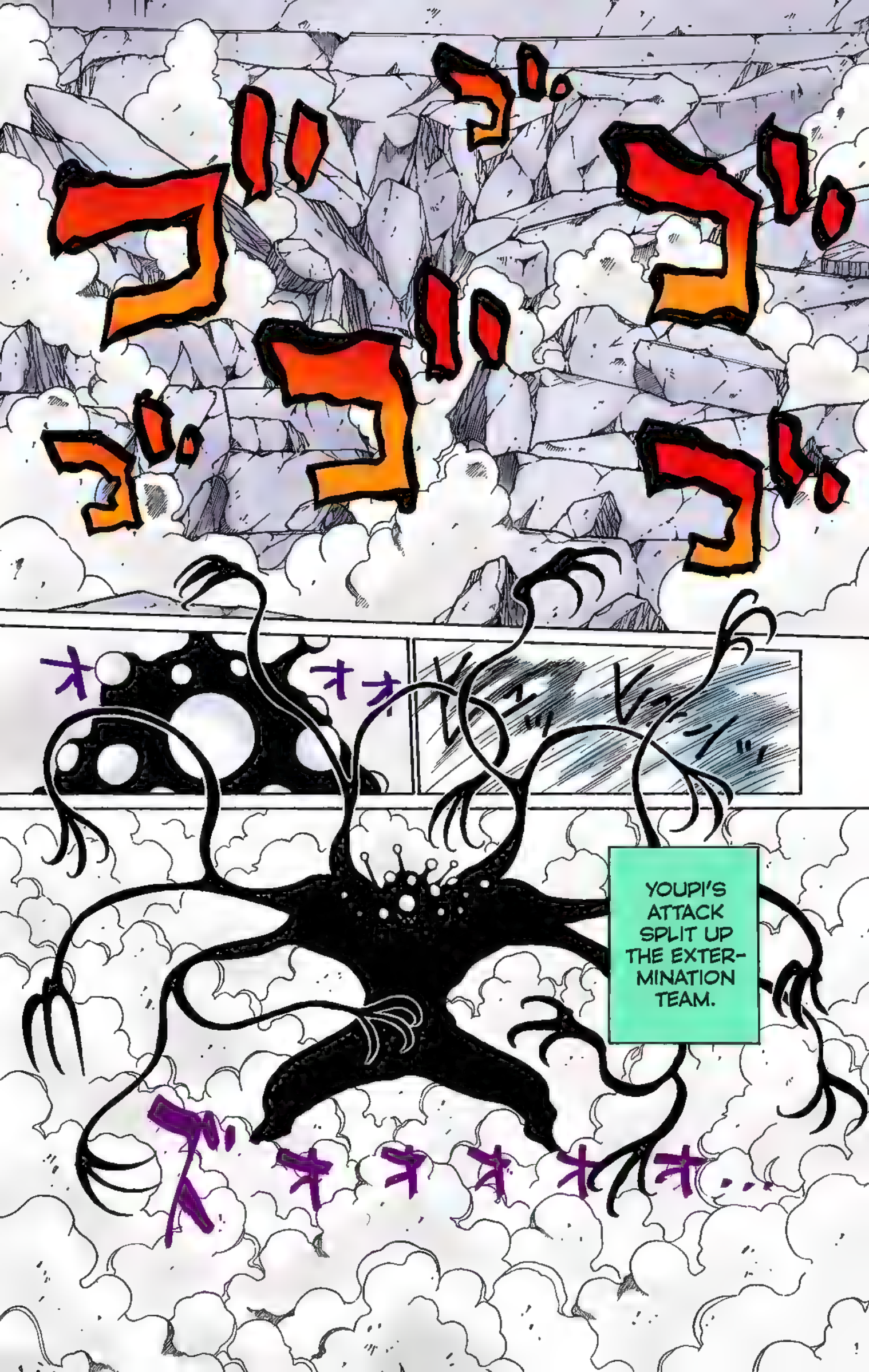
THE TWO VETERANS CONTINUED TO STAND BY, SILENTLY WATCHING THEIR ENEMIES...


ZENO'S REBUKE WAS JUST.
THIS IS NOT WHAT I SIGNED UP FOR.
...WOULD MEAN THE LOSS OF ALL THEIR JUSTIFICATION AND HUMANITY.
THIS WAS AN ACT OF LOVE FOR A LIFE. AN INTRUSION HERE...
NETERO FELT THE SAME WAY.
THE KING STOOD MURMURING TO HIMSELF...
NOT HERE ...
...FOR AN UNEX-PECTED PRO-POSAL.

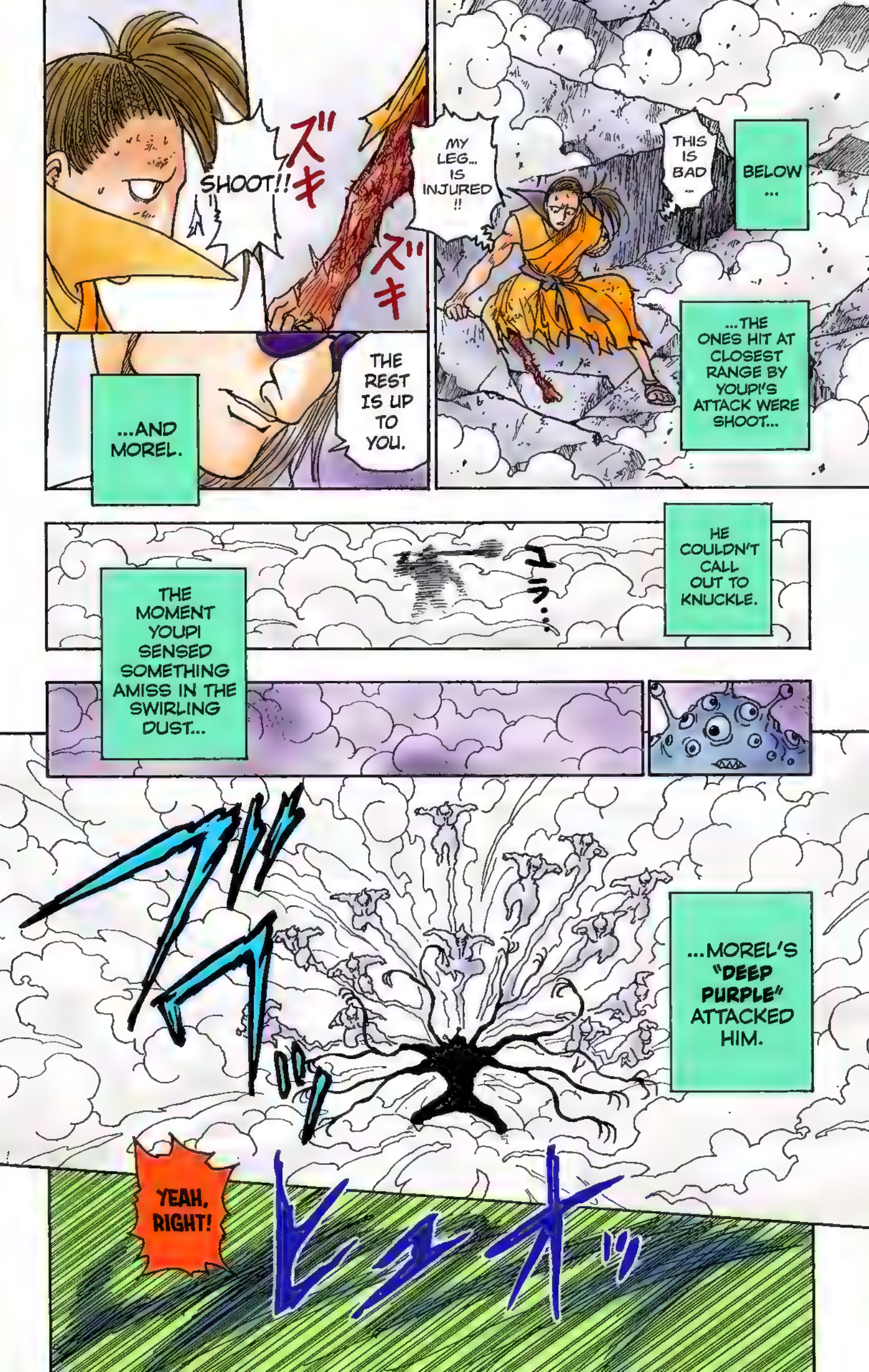

WE SHOULD GO SOMEWHERE ELSE.
SPLIT THE KING FROM THE ROYAL GUARDS.
...WOULD BE TO YOUR BENEFIT, AS WELL.
I BELIEVE THAT A DIFFERENT LOCATION...
HE HAD NO REASON TO OBJECT TO THIS.
NETERO HAD SPENT A GREAT DEAL OF MONEY TO ENLIST ZENO TO HELP HIM WITH JUST THAT.
...HE COULD NOT HELP BUT FEEL ONE STEP BEHIND IN THIS ENCOUNTER.
WELL ...
BUT...
FINE.


TOY REPAIR: DOCTOR BLYTHE!
THE MOMENT PITOU'S ABILITY WAS ACTIVATED ...
...TO LOWER THEIR GUARD FOR A MOMENT, WOULD PROVE FATAL!
DEATH
THE TWO MEN THOUGHT THAT THEIR DECISION ...

...BETWEEN THEM WITH EASE.
AND JUST LIKE THAT, THE KING WAS ABLE TO WALK CALMLY...
THEIR OPPONENT...
...WAS AN EVEN GREATER MONSTER.


YOUPI'S ATTACK SPLIT UP THE EXTER-MINATION TEAM.

YOUPI COMPLETELY DESTROYED THE CENTRAL STAIRCASE AND STOOD READY TO ENGAGE ANY ENEMY WHO DARED CLIMB IT.


SHOOT!!
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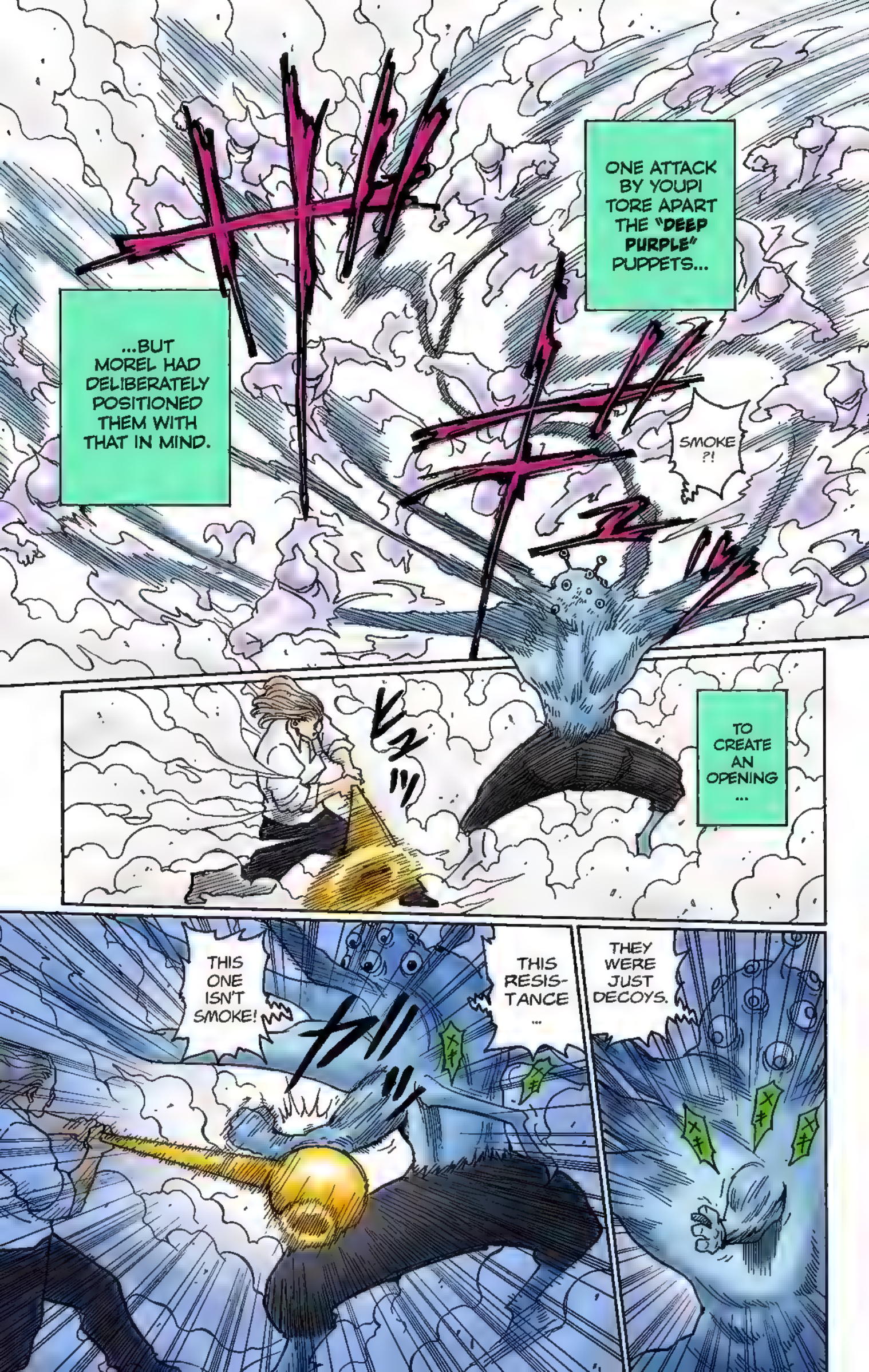
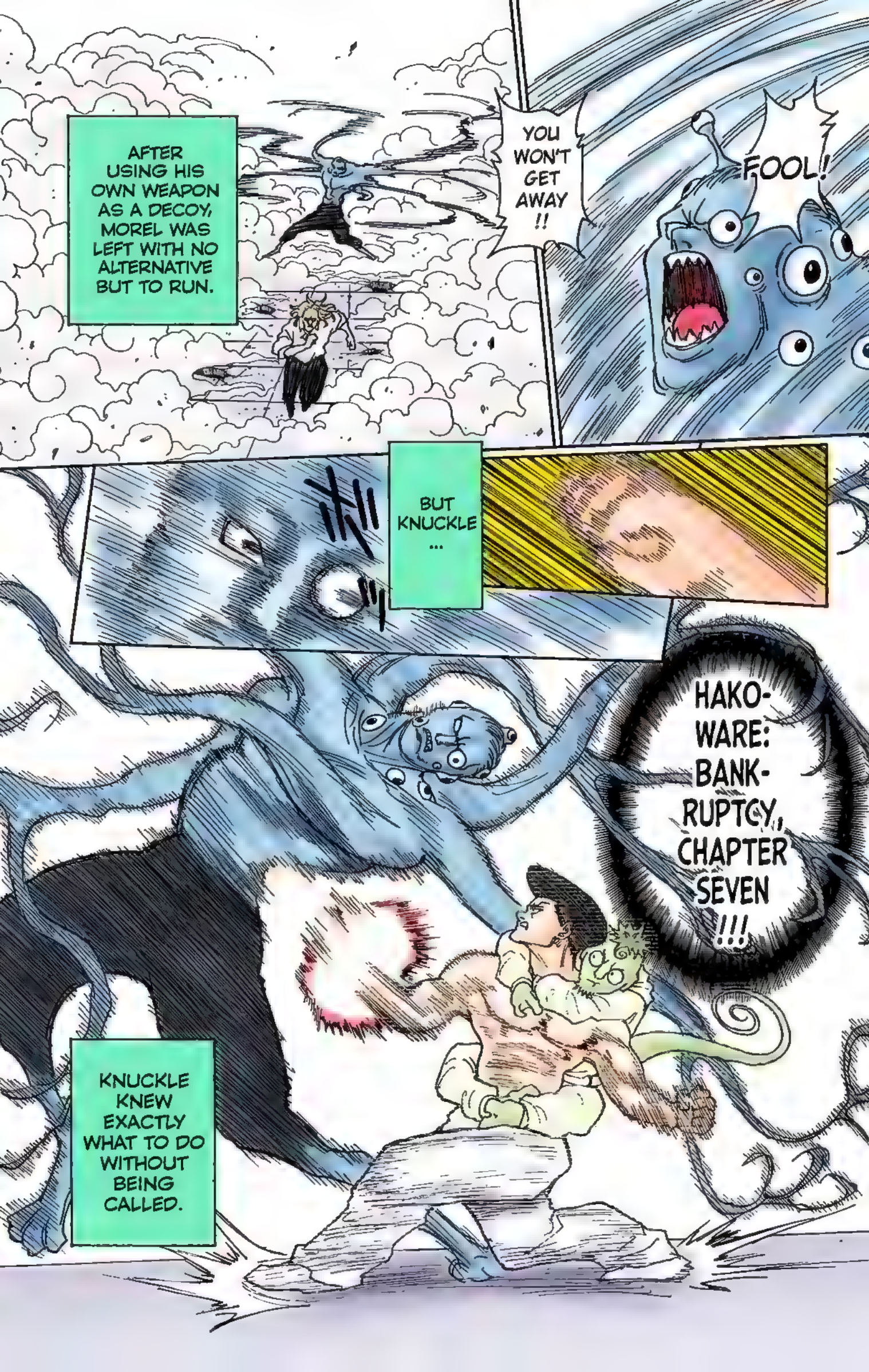
THE REST IS UP TO YOU.
...AND MOREL.
MY LEG... IS INJURED !!
THIS IS BAD ...
BELOW ...
...THE ONES HIT AT CLOSEST RANGE BY YOUPI'S ATTACK WERE SHOOT...
ユラ...
HE COULDN'T CALL OUT TO KNUCKLE.
THE MOMENT YOUPI SENSED SOMETHING AMISS IN THE SWIRLING DUST...
...MOREL'S "DEEP PURPLE" ATTACKED HIM.
YEAH, RIGHT!


ONE ATTACK BY YOUPI TORE APART THE "DEEP PURPLE" PUPPETS...
...BUT MOREL HAD DELIBERATELY POSITIONED THEM WITH THAT IN MIND.
SMOKE ?!
TO CREATE AN OPENING ...
THIS ONE ISN'T SMOKE!
THIS RESIS-TANCE ...
THEY WERE JUST DECOYS.

THE WEAPON WAS THE ONLY THING THAT WASN'T SMOKE?!
...ALL IN ORDER TO SLIP BY.


AFTER USING HIS OWN WEAPON AS A DECOY, MOREL WAS LEFT WITH NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO RUN.
YOU WON'T GET AWAY !!
FOOL!
BUT KNUCKLE ...
HAKO-WARE: BANK-RUPTCY, CHAPTER SEVEN !!!
KNUCKLE KNEW EXACTLY WHAT TO DO WITHOUT BEING CALLED.

DIGITAL
SHUEISHA JUMP COMICS

No.269 ◆ ADVERSITY IS A GOOD THING

TCH!

HRN!

I'M GIVING IT EVERYTHING I'VE GOT AND SEND HIM FLYING OVER THE HORIZON...

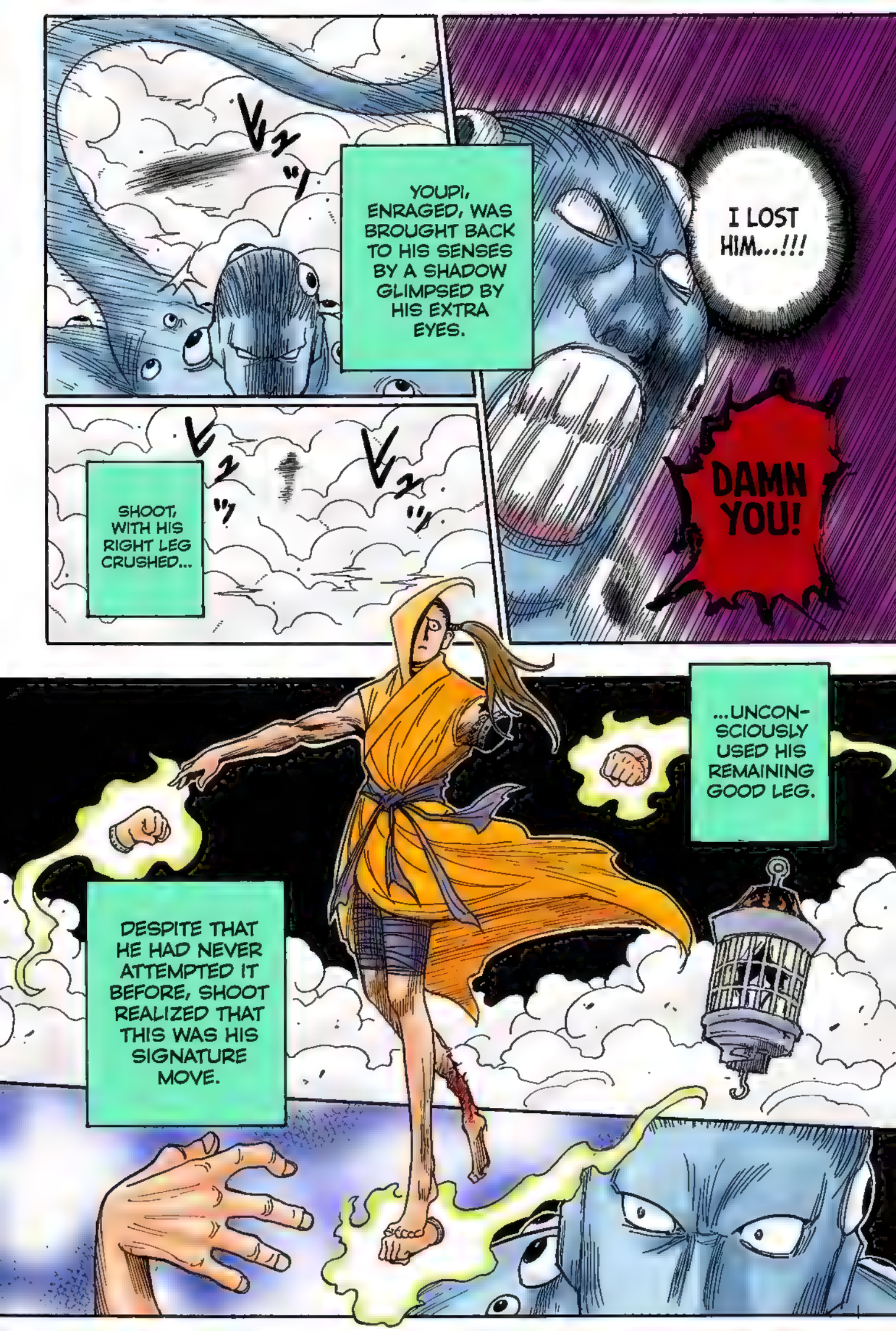
.....

"HAKOWARE: BANKRUPTCY CHAPTER 7" ACCRUES INTEREST AS TIME PASSES INCLUDING ADDITIONAL DAMAGE RECEIVED.

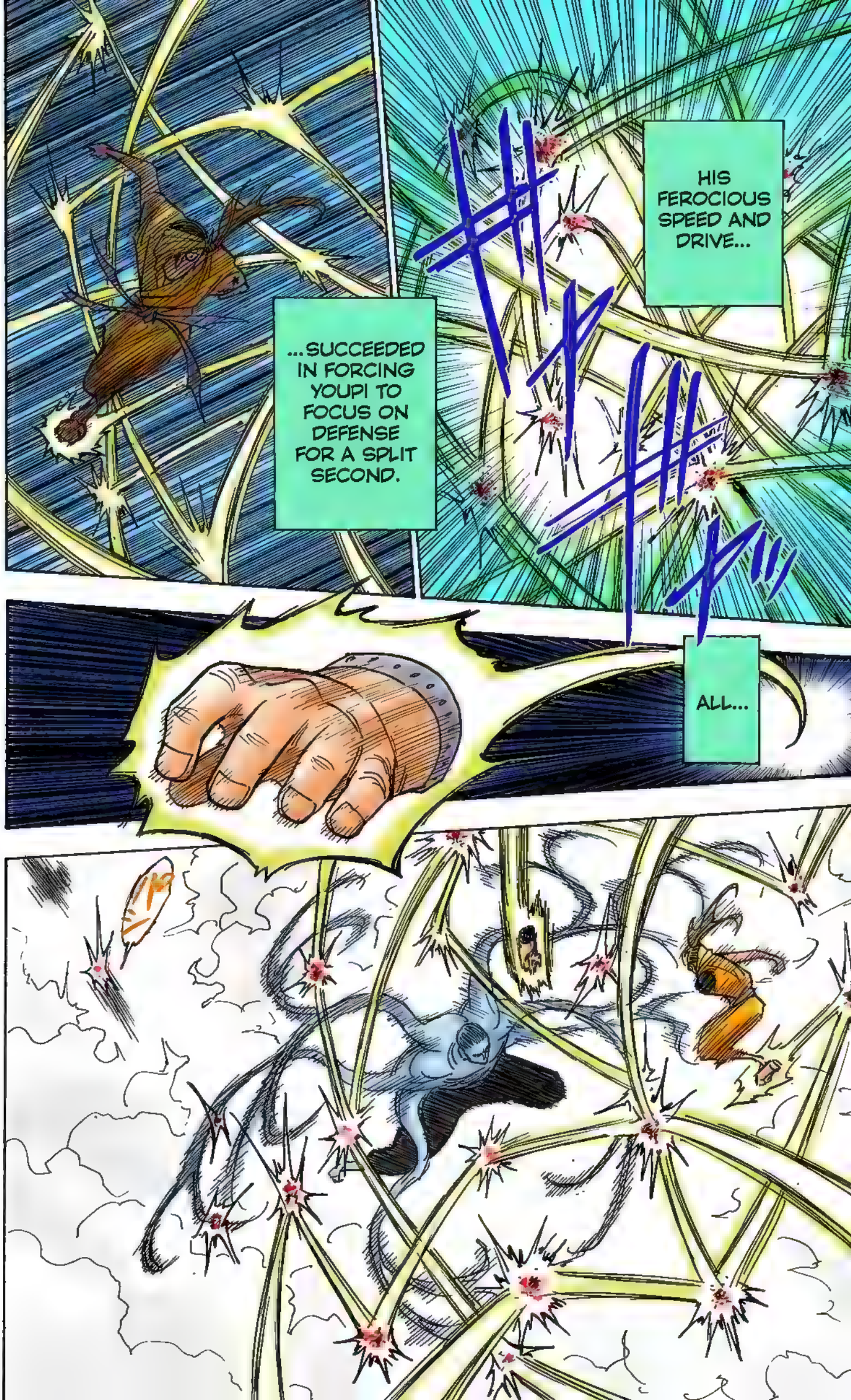
THE TOTAL IS STILL 590...!!

590

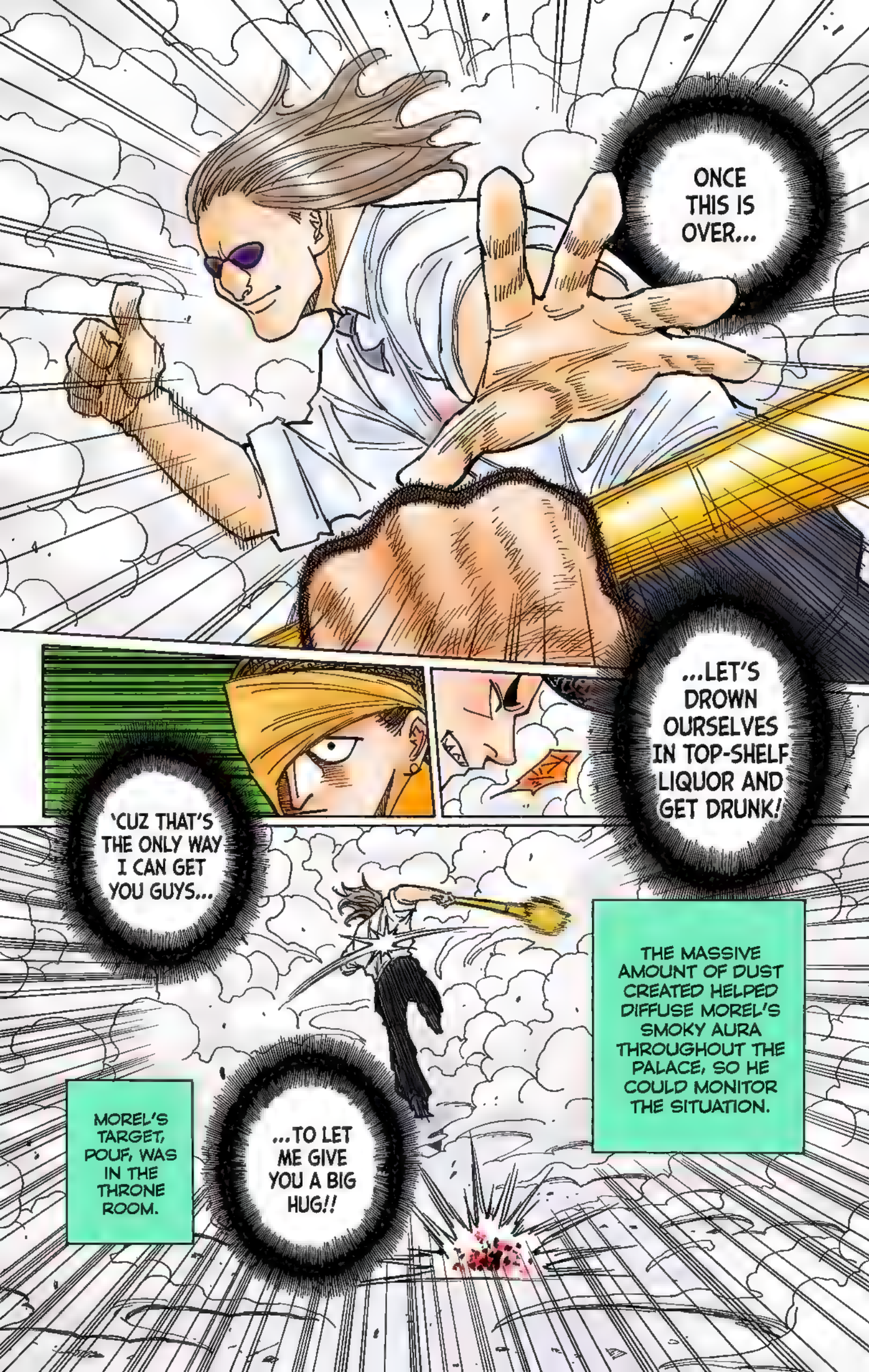
10 SECONDS FEELS LIKE AN ETERNITY RIGHT NOW ...!!


YOUPI, ENRAGED, WAS BROUGHT BACK TO HIS SENSES BY A SHADOW GLIMPSED BY HIS EXTRA EYES.
I LOST HIM...!!!
DAMN YOU!
SHOOT, WITH HIS RIGHT LEG CRUSHED...
...UNCONSCIOUSLY USED HIS REMAINING GOOD LEG.
DESPITE THAT HE HAD NEVER ATTEMPTED IT BEFORE, SHOOT REALIZED THAT THIS WAS HIS SIGNATURE MOVE.

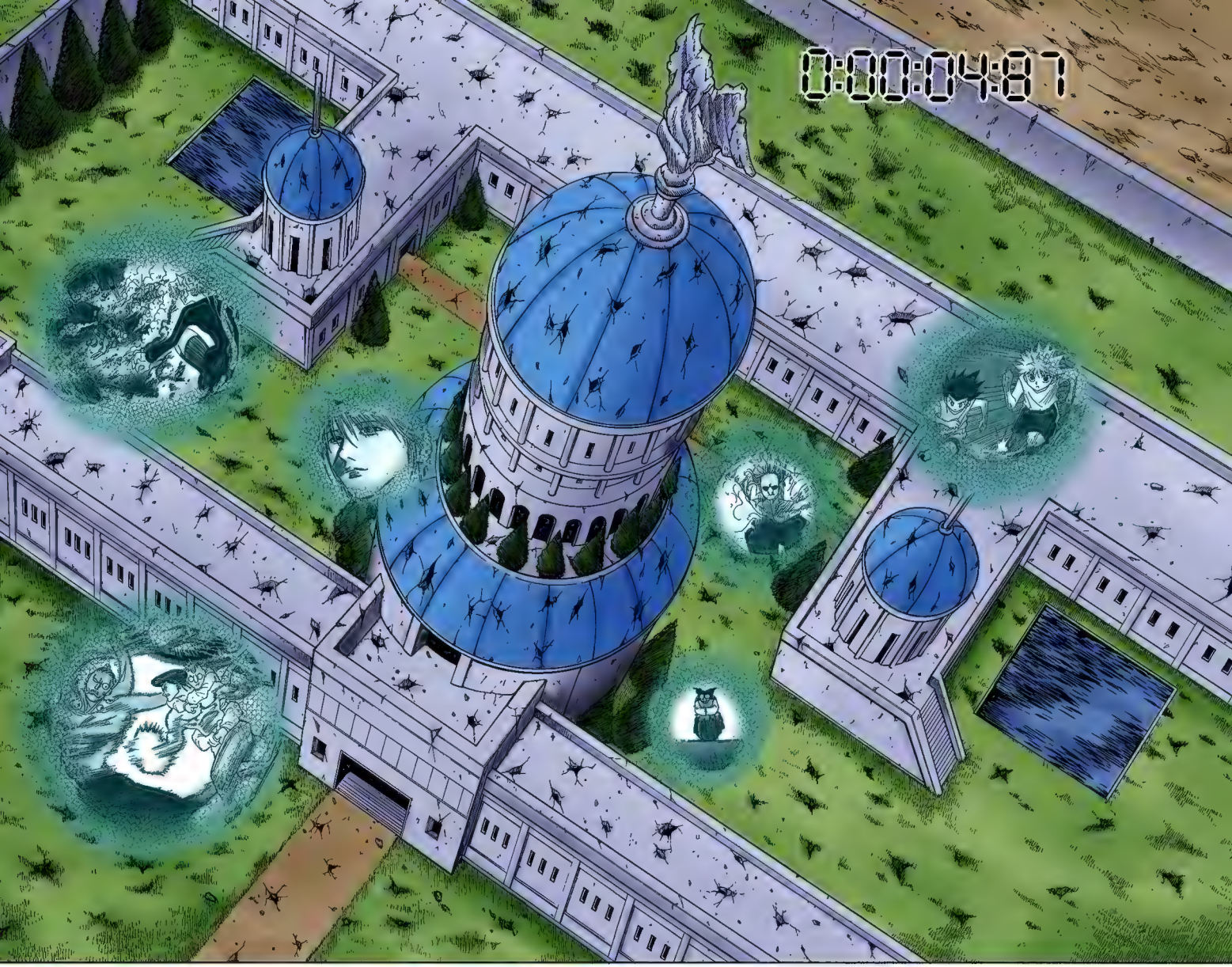
BUT HE JUST ENJOYED HOW FEELING CORNERED FILLED HIM WITH A NEWFOUND STRENGTH.
AND HE HAD NO CLEAR REASON TO COVER HIS RIGHT EYE.
SUSTAINED BY ADVERSITY ITSELF...
SHOOT TOOK FLIGHT.


HIS FEROCIOUS SPEED AND DRIVE...
...SUCCEEDED IN FORCING YOUPI TO FOCUS ON DEFENSE FOR A SPLIT SECOND.
ALL...

...TO HELP THE OTHERS ADVANCE !!!
SHOOT!
KNUCKLE!


ONCE THIS IS OVER...
...LET'S DROWN OURSELVES IN TOP-SHELF LIQUOR AND GET DRUNK!
'CUZ THAT'S THE ONLY WAY I CAN GET YOU GUYS...
THE MASSIVE AMOUNT OF DUST CREATED HELPED DIFFUSE MOREL'S SMOKY AURA THROUGHOUT THE PALACE, SO HE COULD MONITOR THE SITUATION.
MOREL'S TARGET, POUF, WAS IN THE THRONE ROOM.
...TO LET ME GIVE YOU A BIG HUG!!

THEY PLANNED TO JUMP DIRECTLY FROM THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE RIGHT TOWER TO THE THIRD FLOOR OF THE CENTRAL TOWER.
WHEN YOUP! DESTROYED THE CENTRAL STAIRWAY, GON AND KILLUA EVADED THE ATTACK AND SIMULTANEOUSLY CHANGED DIRECTION.
THEY PASSED IKALGO IN THE COURT-YARD AS HE HEADED FOR THE ELEVATOR IN THE BASEMENT.
IKALGO'S ABILITY LETS HIM CONTROL CORPSES LIKE PART OF HIS OWN BODY, "FORBIDDEN GAMES: LIVING DEAD DOLLS" AND GRANTS HIM THE USE OF COMPOUND EYES WHICH HAD ALLOWED HIM TO DODGE "DRAGON DIVE" SAFELY.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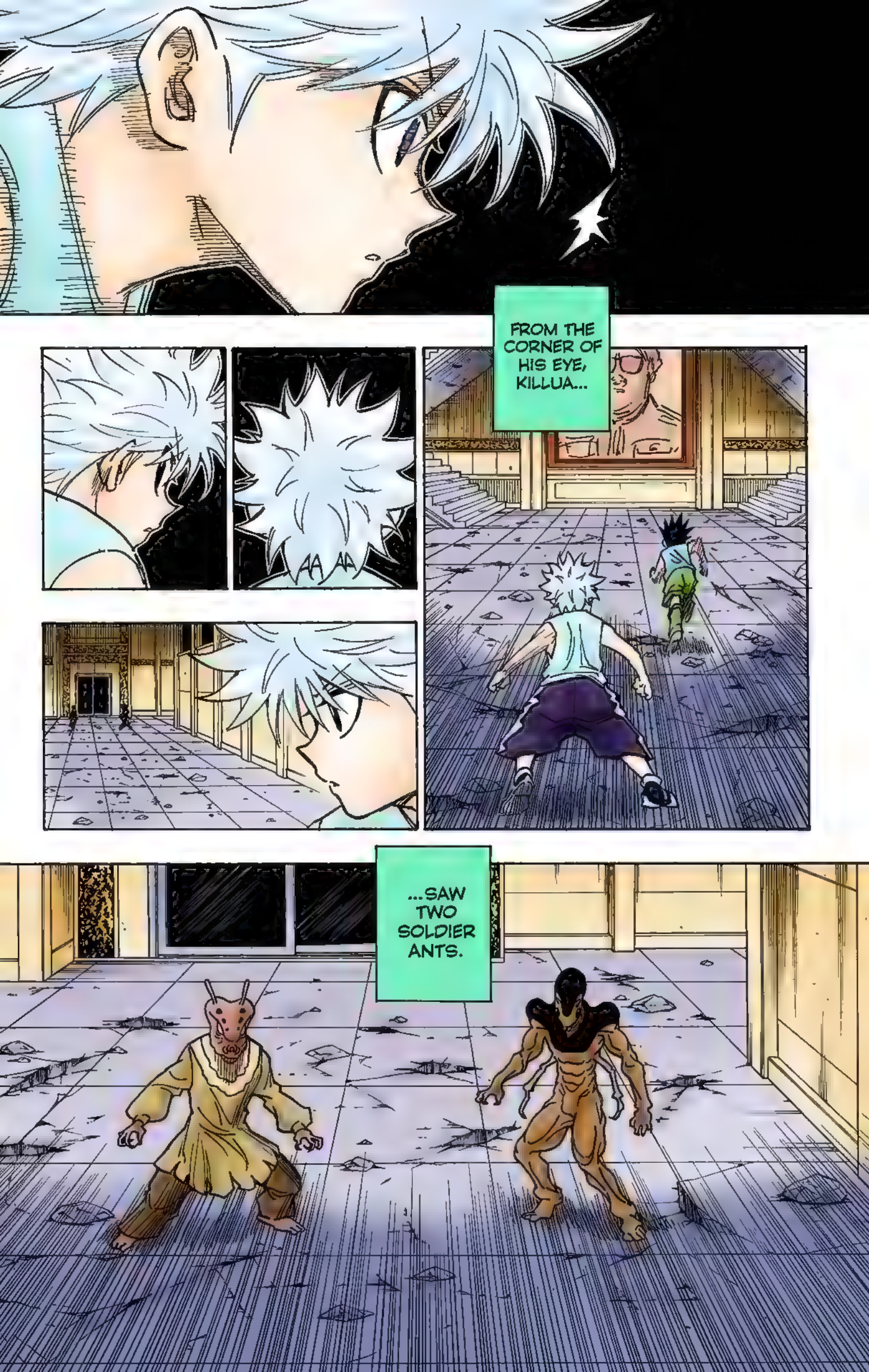
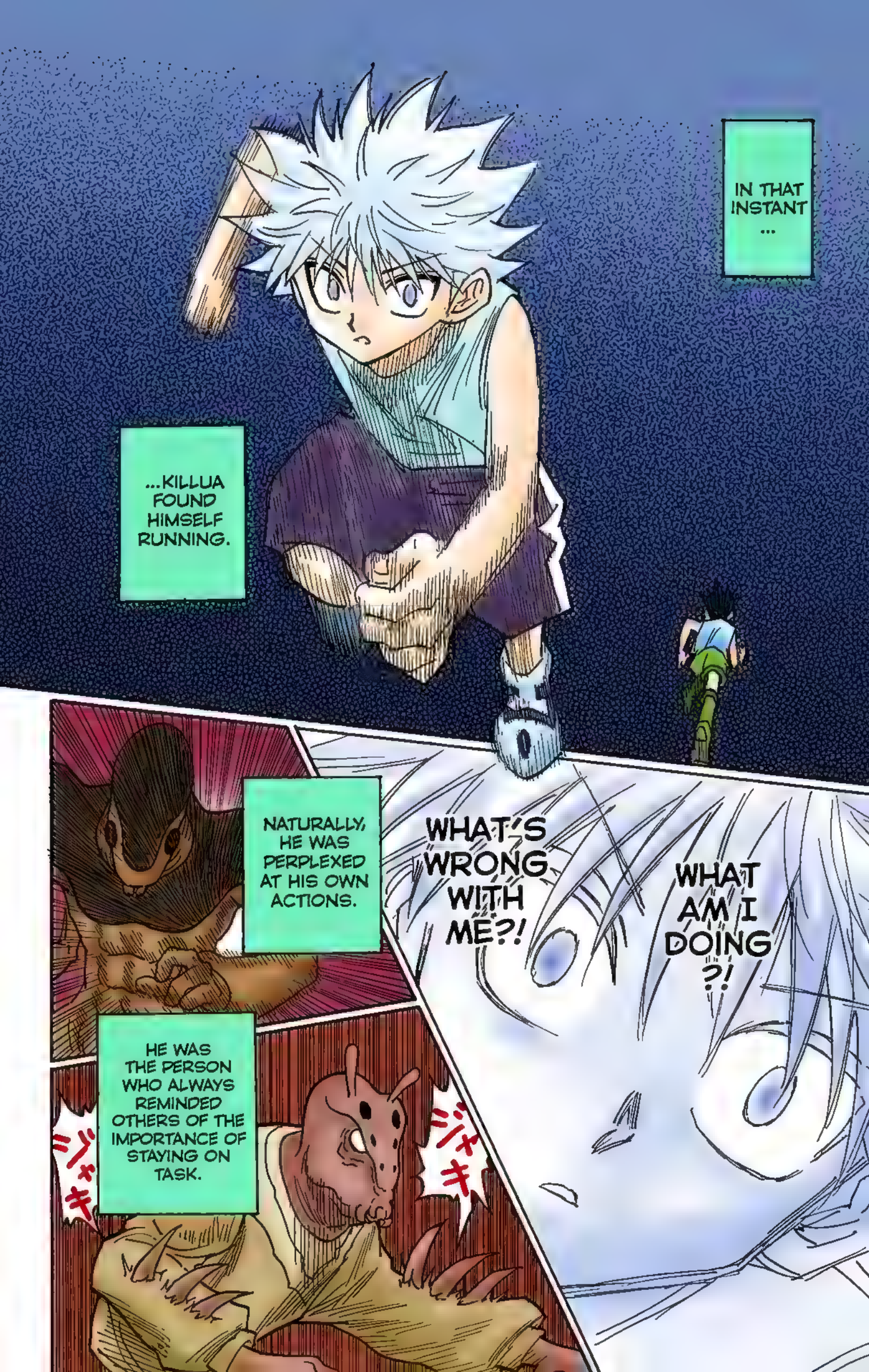

FROM THE CORNER OF HIS EYE, KILLUA...
...SAW TWO SOLDIER ANTS.

TOWARDS IKALGO...!!
THEY WERE HEADING ...


IN THAT INSTANT ...
...KILLUA FOUND HIMSELF RUNNING.
NATURALLY, HE WAS PERPLEXED AT HIS OWN ACTIONS.
WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME?!
WHAT AM I DOING?!
HE WAS THE PERSON WHO ALWAYS REMINDED OTHERS OF THE IMPORTANCE OF STAYING ON TASK.
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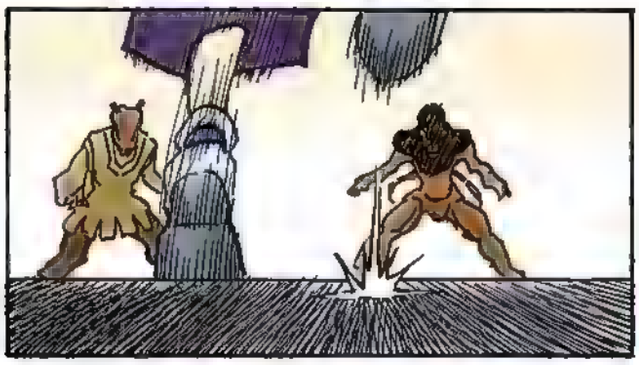
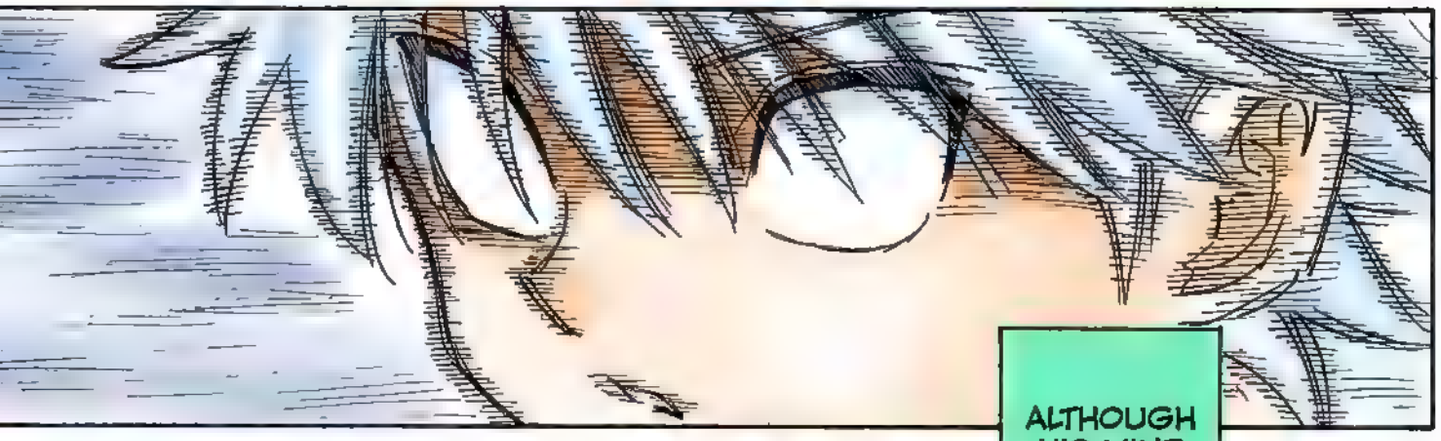
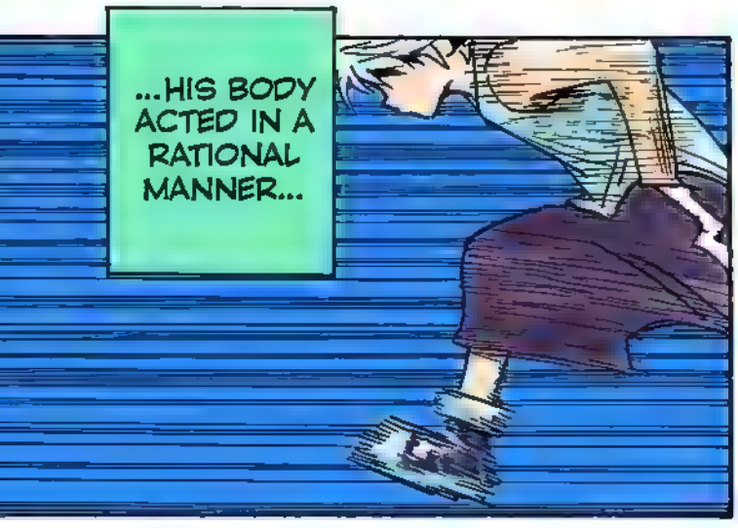
ジャキ

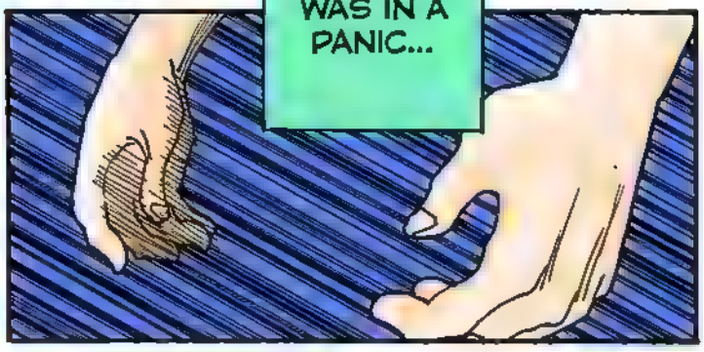
KILLUA'S THOUGHT PROCESSES GROUND TO A HALT.

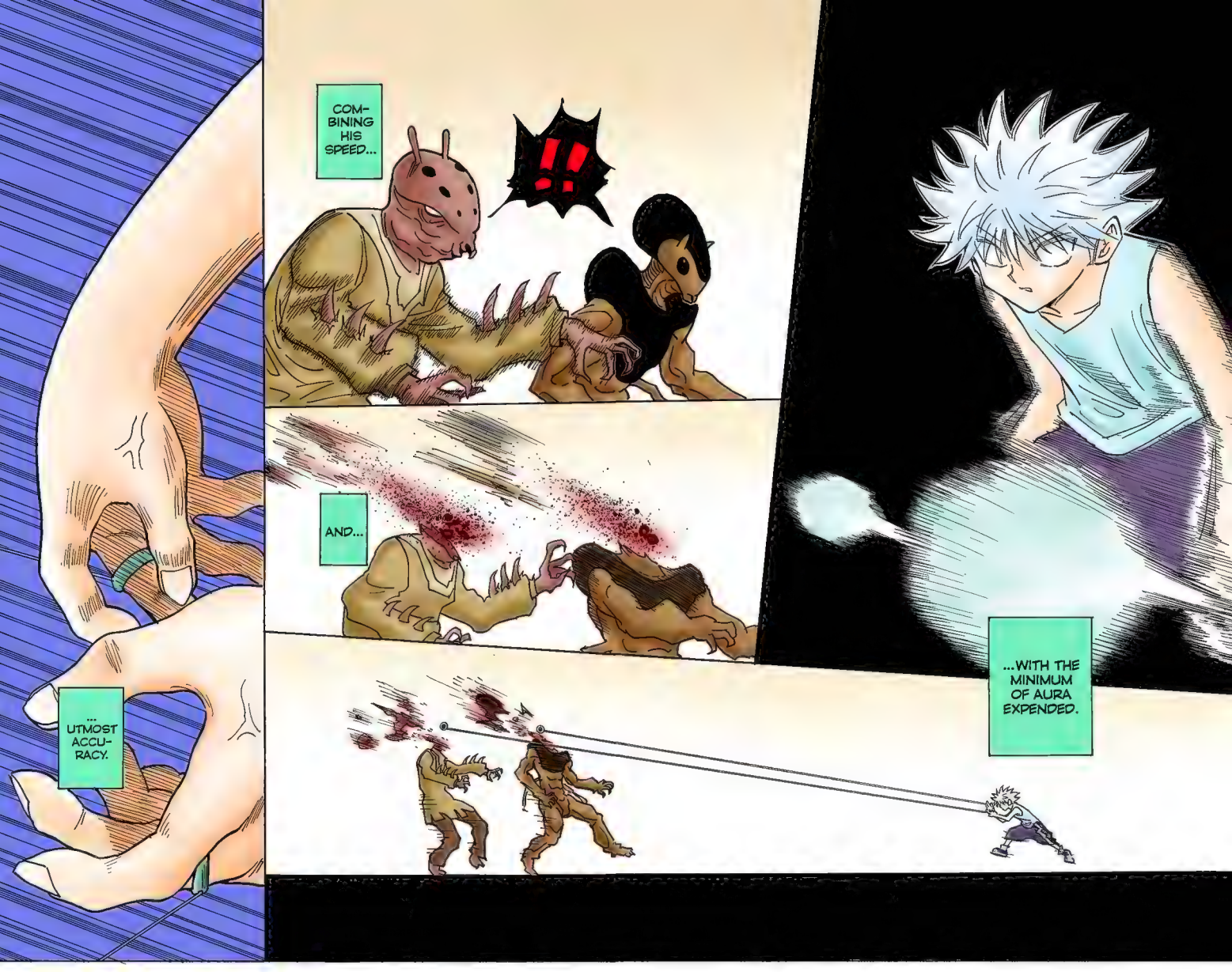


WHY IS HE HEADING TOWARD THE ELEVATOR ...?!
KILLUA ?!


ALTHOUGH HIS MIND WAS IN A PANIC...


...HIS BODY ACTED IN A RATIONAL MANNER...

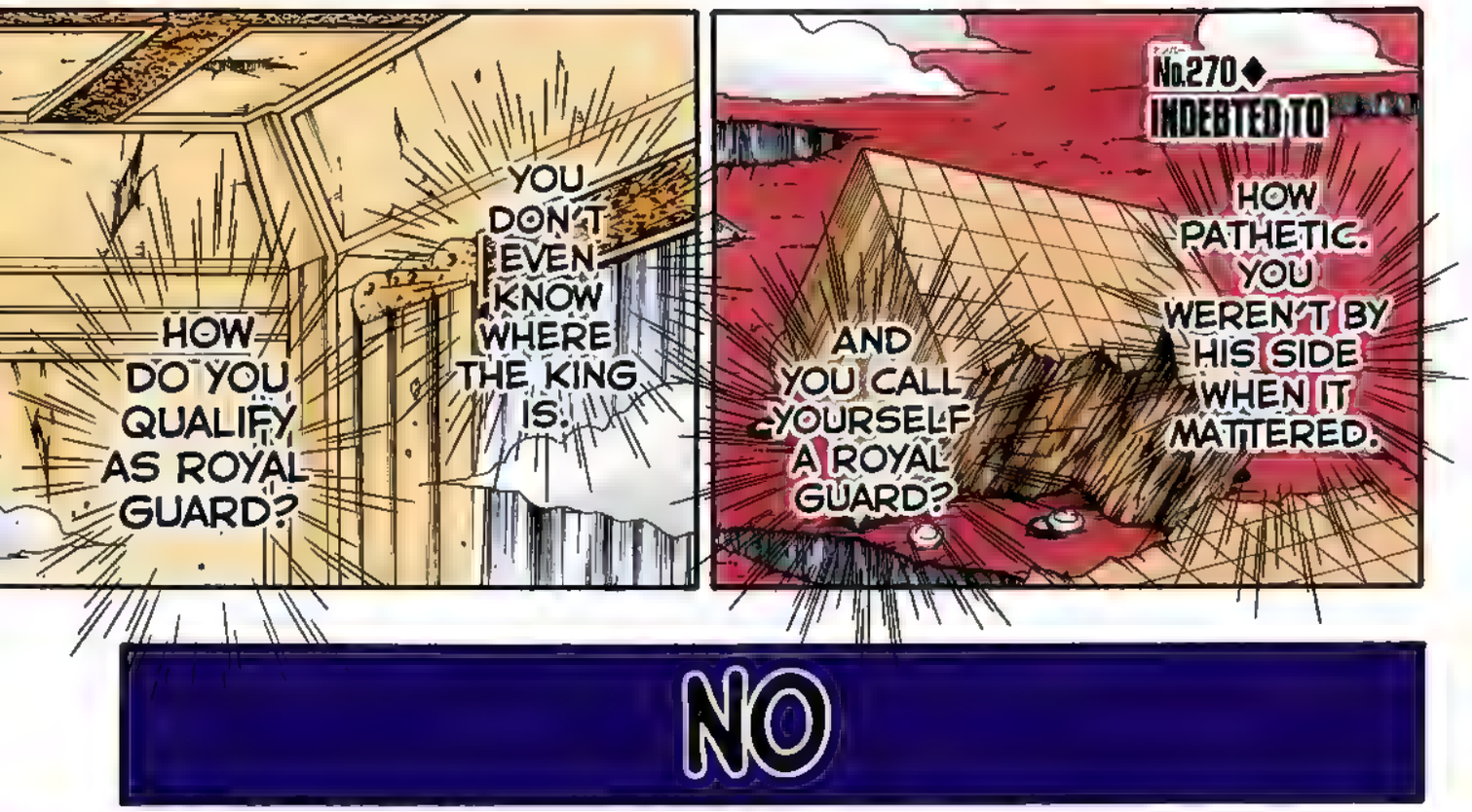



COM-BINING HIS SPEED...
!!
AND...
...WITH THE MINIMUM OF AURA EXPENDED.
... UTMOST ACCU-RACY.

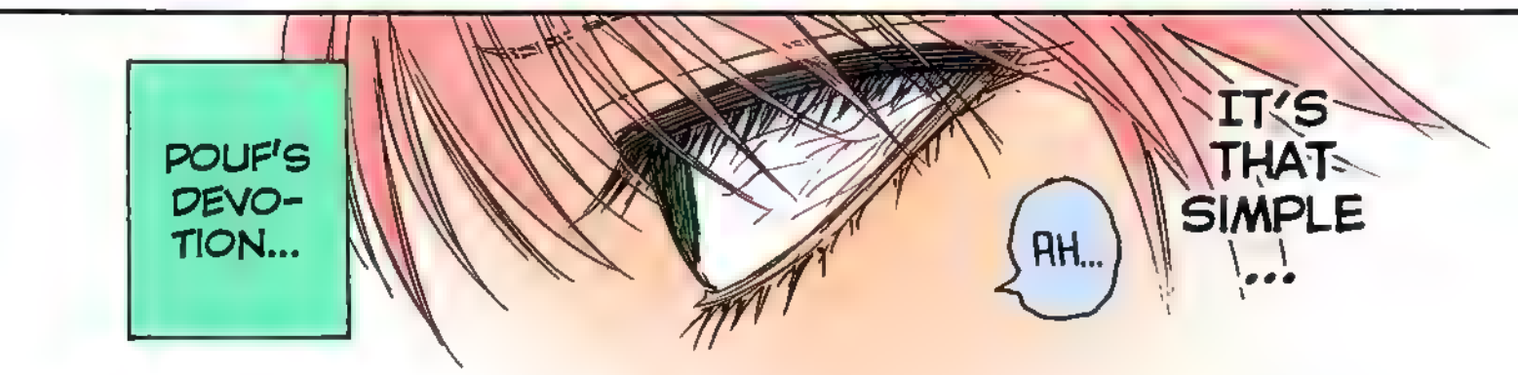
THE ONLY WITNESSES WERE IKALGO...
...AND ANOTHER ANT.
...OPTIONS AND ABILITIES TO FIGHT AS WELL.
HE ELIMINATED THE TWO SOLDIERS' ANTS...

THERE WAS SMOKE COMING FROM THE KING'S THRONE ROOM.
GON UNDER-STOOD WHAT IT MEANT INSTANTLY.
0:00:06:52
MEAN-WHILE ...

DIGITAL
SHUEISHA JUMP COMICS


HOW DO YOU QUALIFY AS ROYAL GUARD?
YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE THE KING IS.
No.270
INDEBTED TO
AND YOU CALL YOURSELF A ROYAL GUARD?
HOW PATHETIC. YOU WEREN'T BY HIS SIDE WHEN IT MATTERED.
NO

...YOU'RE A FAILURE !!!
FOR A ROYAL GUARD...


POUF'S DEVO-TION...
AH...
IT'S THAT SIMPLE...

AN ABSOLUTE KING, FEELING CONCERN FOR A LOWLY HUMAN. VISITING THE CHAMBERS OF A LOWLY HUMAN BY CHOICE.

HIS EMOTIONS WERE DIRECTED ...

...AT THE KING AS WELL AS HIMSELF.

YOU DON'T WANT HIM TO SPEND TIME WITH THAT WOMAN !!!!

USELESS POUF...

SO, POUF...

POUF, THE FORMER ROYAL GUARD...

...MADE HIM BOTH STRONG AND WEAK AT THE SAME TIME.

YOU'RE AN UTTER FOOL.

WHERE WILL YOU GO NOW?

YOU FAILED AS A ROYAL GUARD.

HE HAD A PRECONCEIVED ABSOLUTE IDEAL TO LIVE UP TO WITH NO ROOM FOR AMENDMENT.

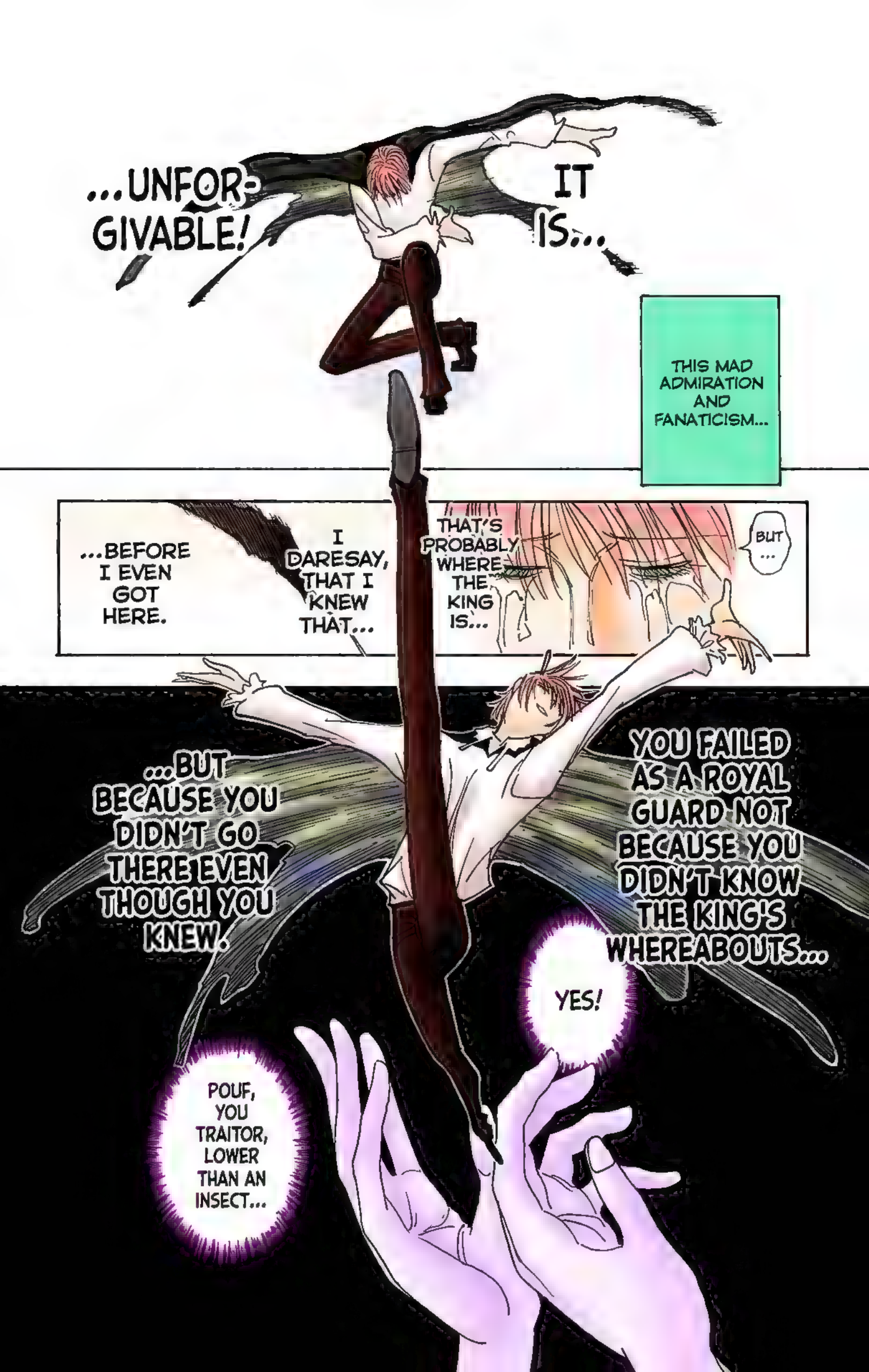
IF THE KING ISN'T WHERE YOU HEAD TO...

YOU HAVE NO IDEA?

...THEN YOU ARE LESS THAN INCOMPETENT!

YOU JUST DON'T WANT TO ADMIT IT!!

NO... USELESS POUF...


...UNFOR-GIVABLE!
IT IS...
THIS MAD ADMIRATION AND FANATICISM...
...BEFORE I EVEN GOT HERE.
I DARESAY, THAT I KNEW THAT...
THAT'S PROBABLY WHERE THE KING IS...
BUT ...
...BUT BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T GO THERE EVEN THOUGH YOU KNEW.
YOU FAILED AS A ROYAL GUARD NOT BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T KNOW THE KING'S WHEREABOUTS...
YES!
POUF, YOU TRAITOR, LOWER THAN AN INSECT...

YOU MUST DEVOTE YOURSELF SOLELY FOR THE KING!

THEREFORE, YOU MUST NOT EXPECT ANYTHING FROM THE KING.

YOU MUST NOT EXPECT ANYTHING FROM YOURSELF.

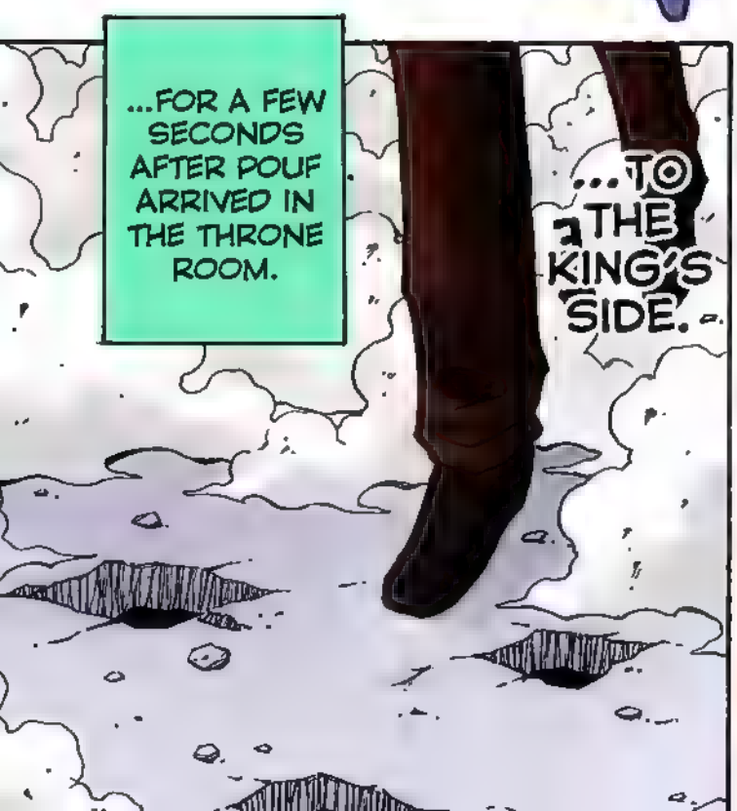
YOU ARE BENEATH WORTHLESS.

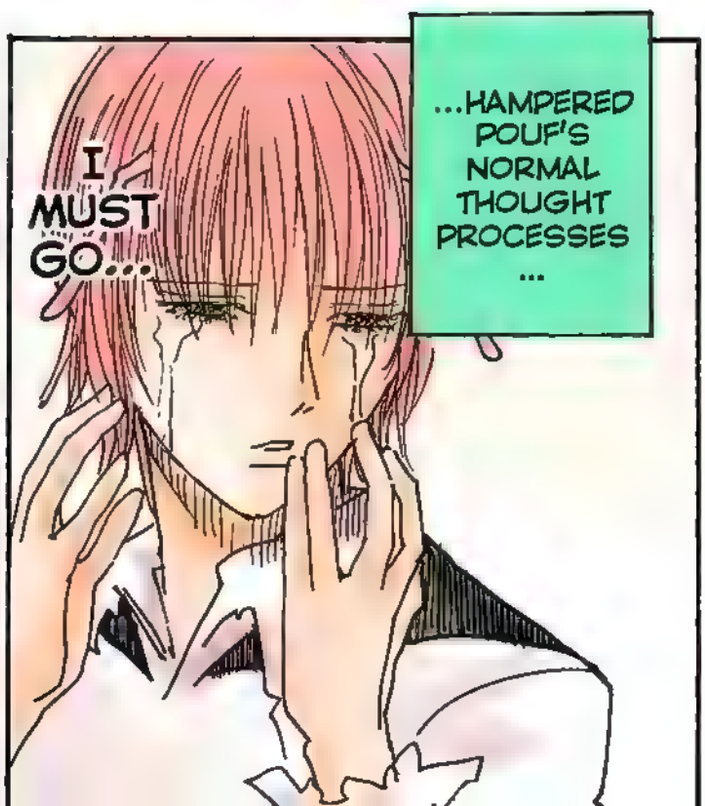
FOR THE KING!!!!!

FOR THE KING!!!!

FOR THE KING!!!

FOR THE KING!!





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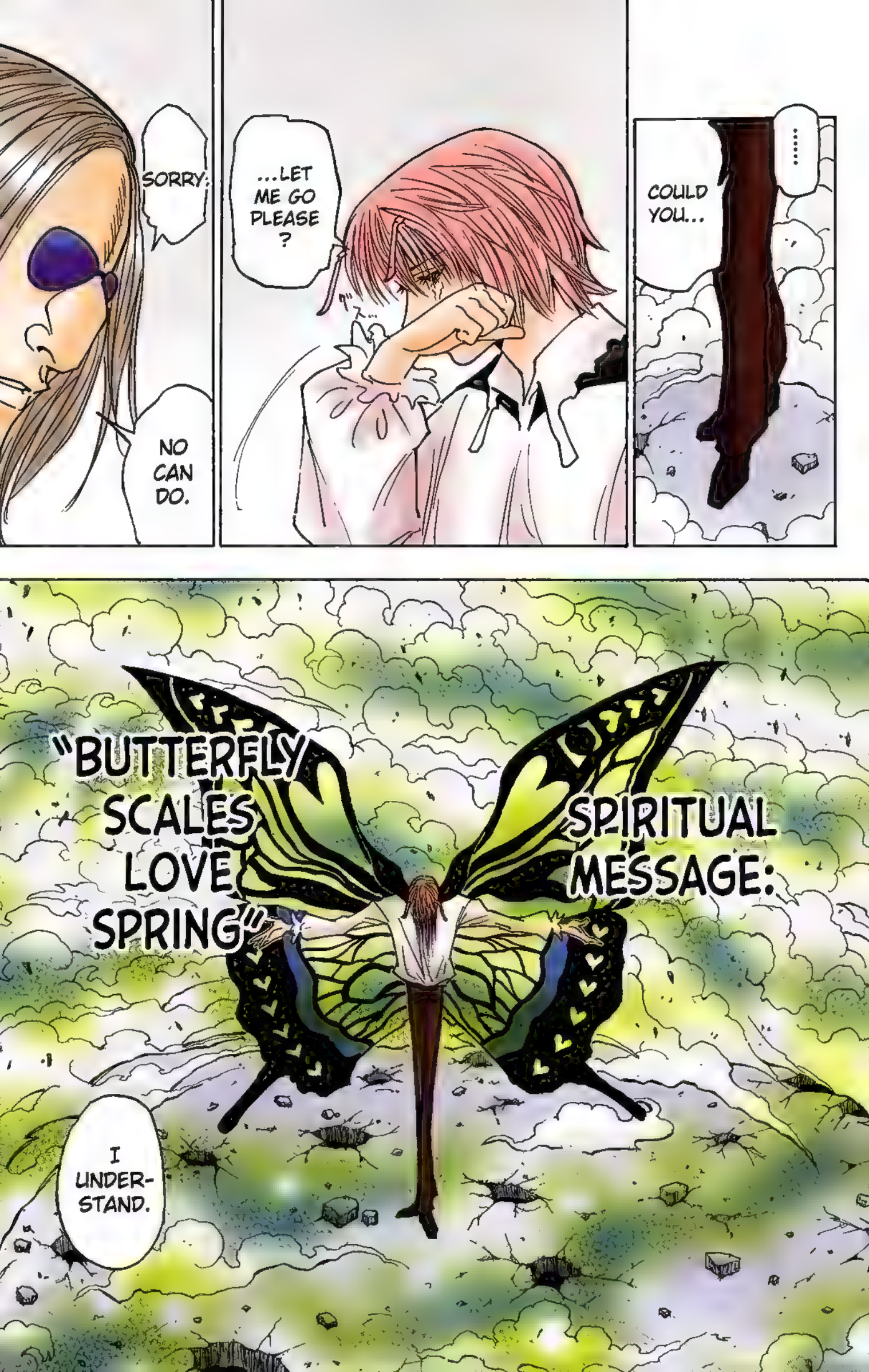
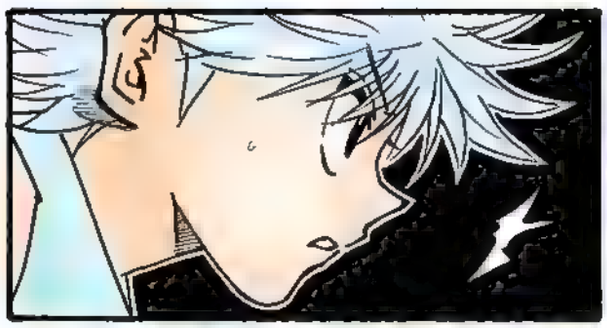
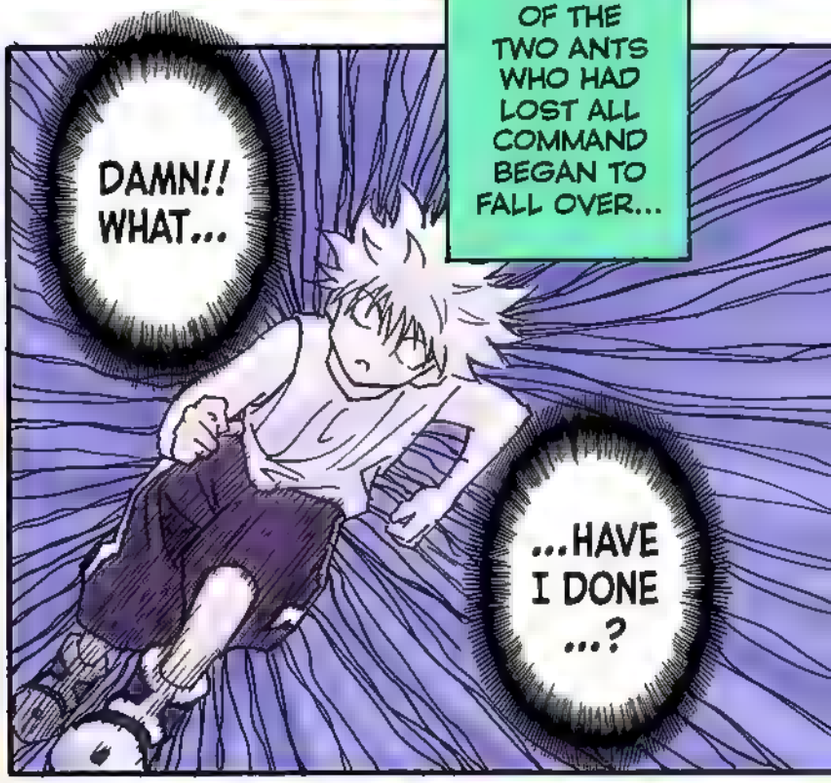
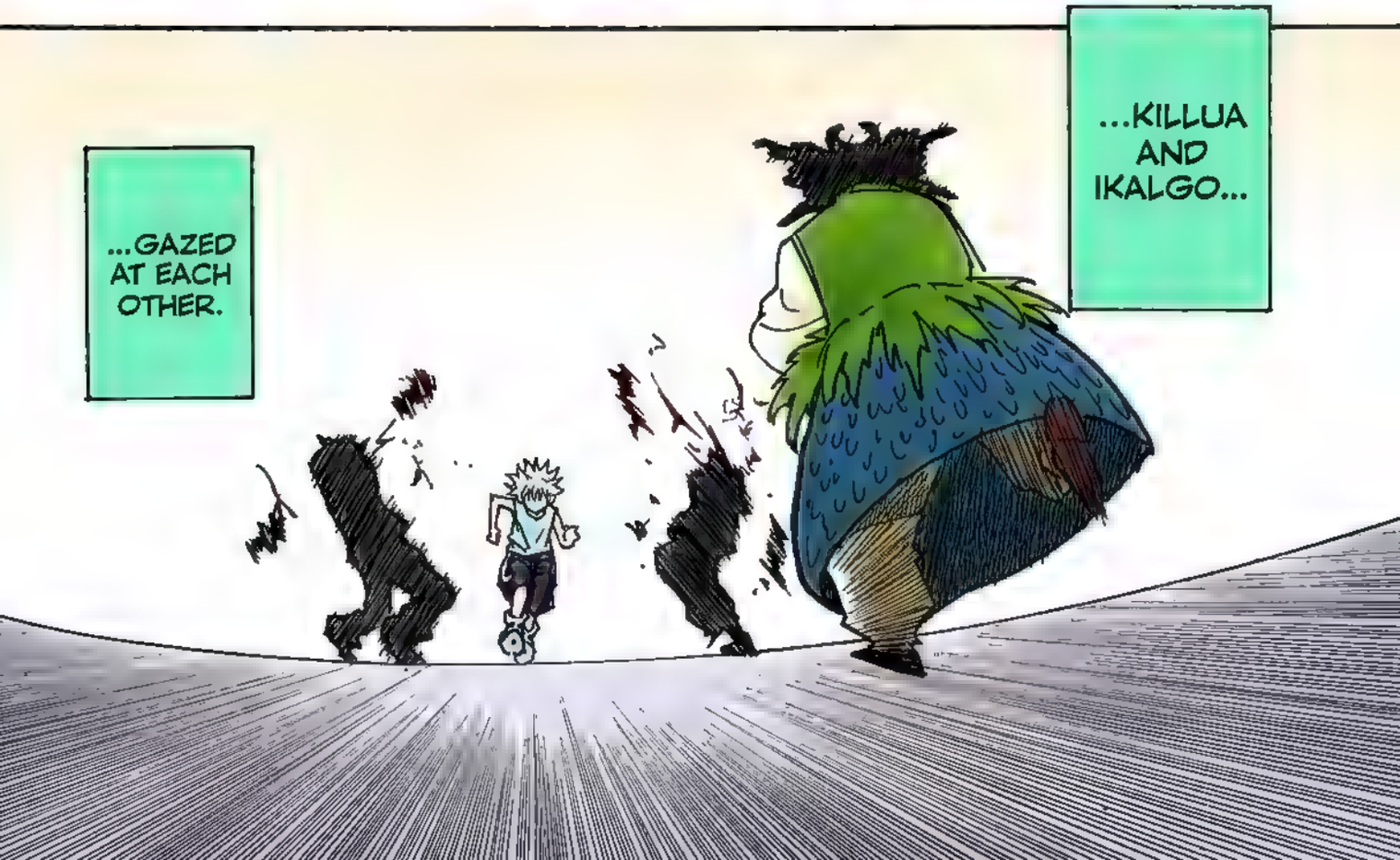
No.270 ◆
INDEBTED TO

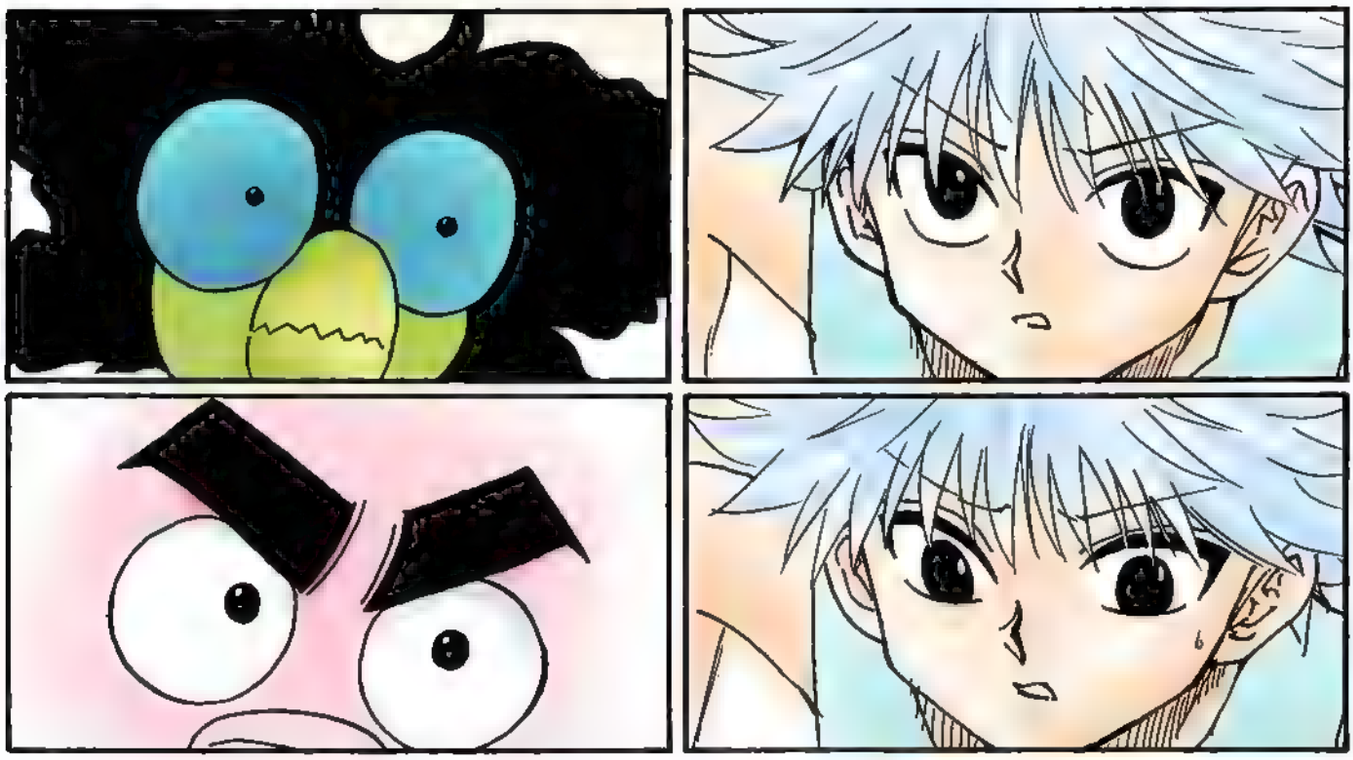
HEY...
GOING STRAIGHT TO THE KING'S SIDE, HUH?
YOU'RE IGNORING ME, HUH?!
I GOT YOU CLOSED IN.
TOO BAD, UNFOR-TUNATELY ...


SORRY.
NO CAN DO.
...LET ME GO PLEASE ?
COULD YOU...
.....
"BUTTERFLY SCALES LOVE SPRING"
SPIRITUAL MESSAGE:
I UNDER-STAND.




AS THE BODIES OF THE TWO ANTS WHO HAD LOST ALL COMMAND BEGAN TO FALL OVER...
DAMN!! WHAT...
...HAVE I DONE ...?

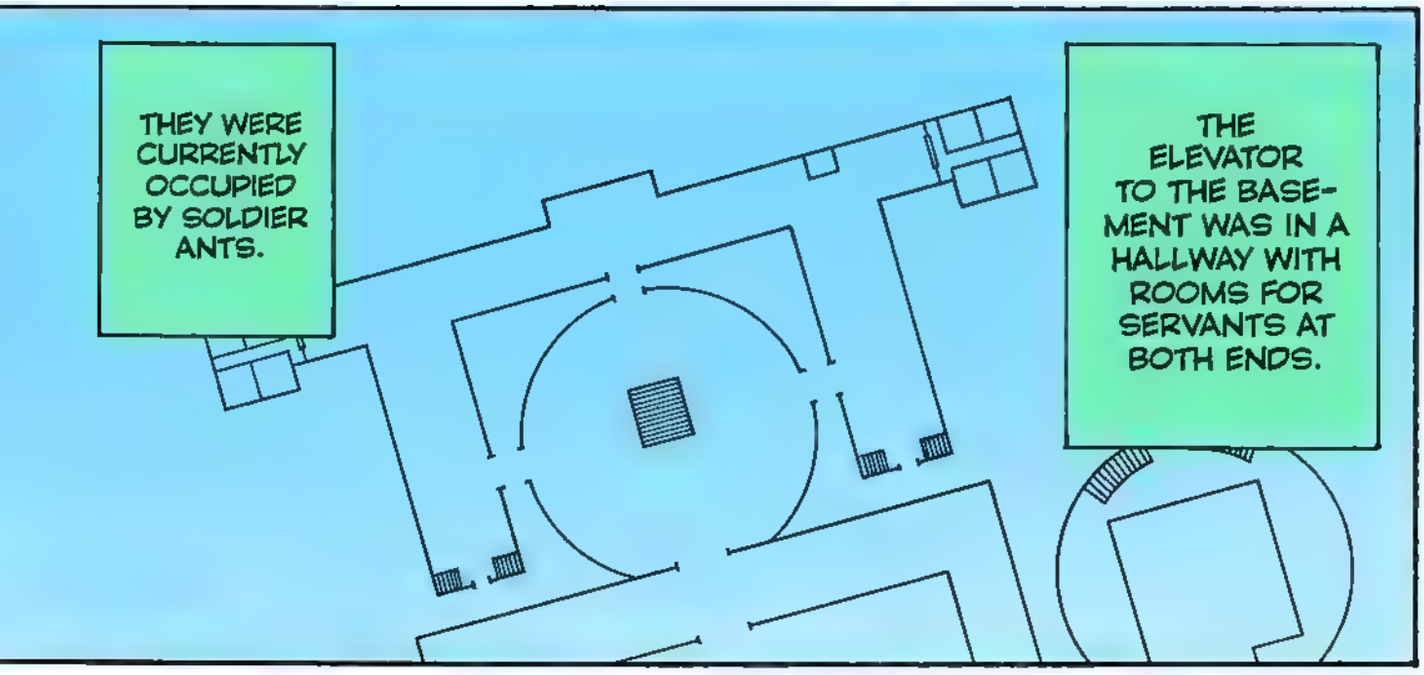

...KILLUA AND IKALGO...
...GAZED AT EACH OTHER.

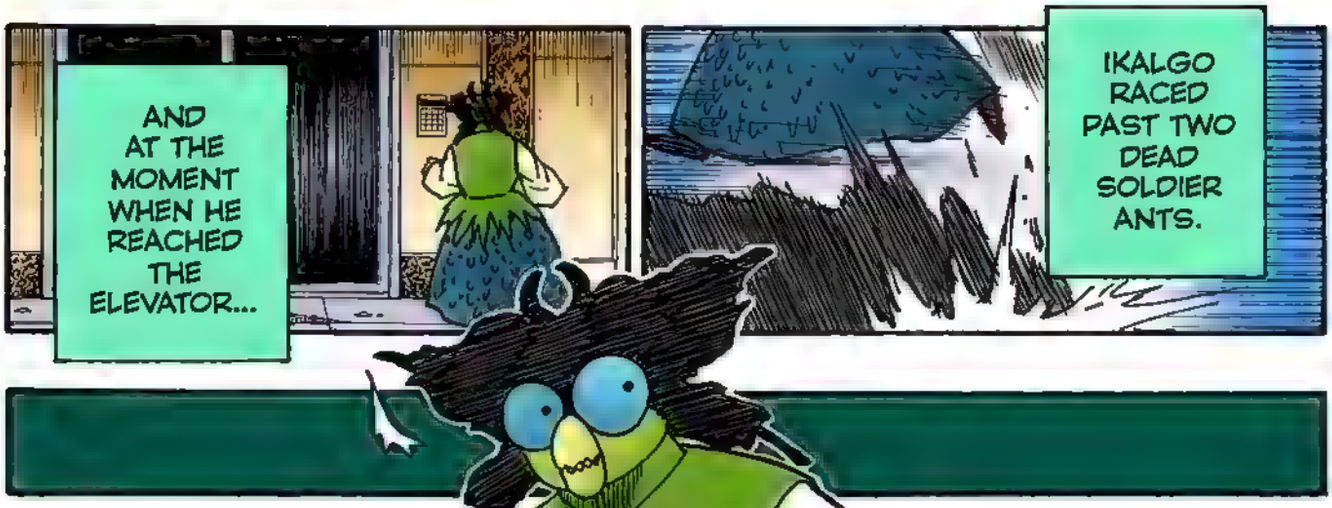


KILLUA.

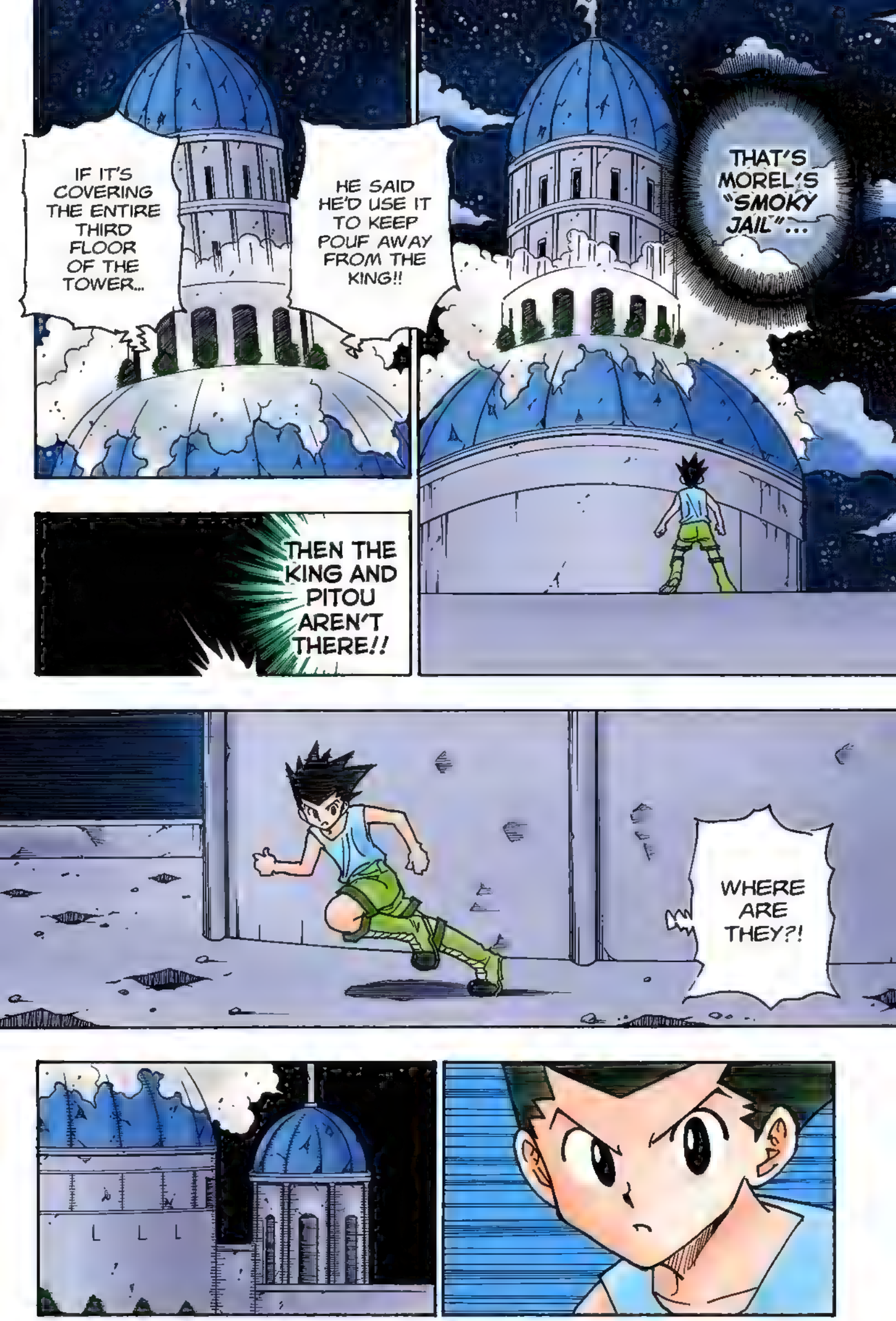
YOU "OWE" ME ONE!!

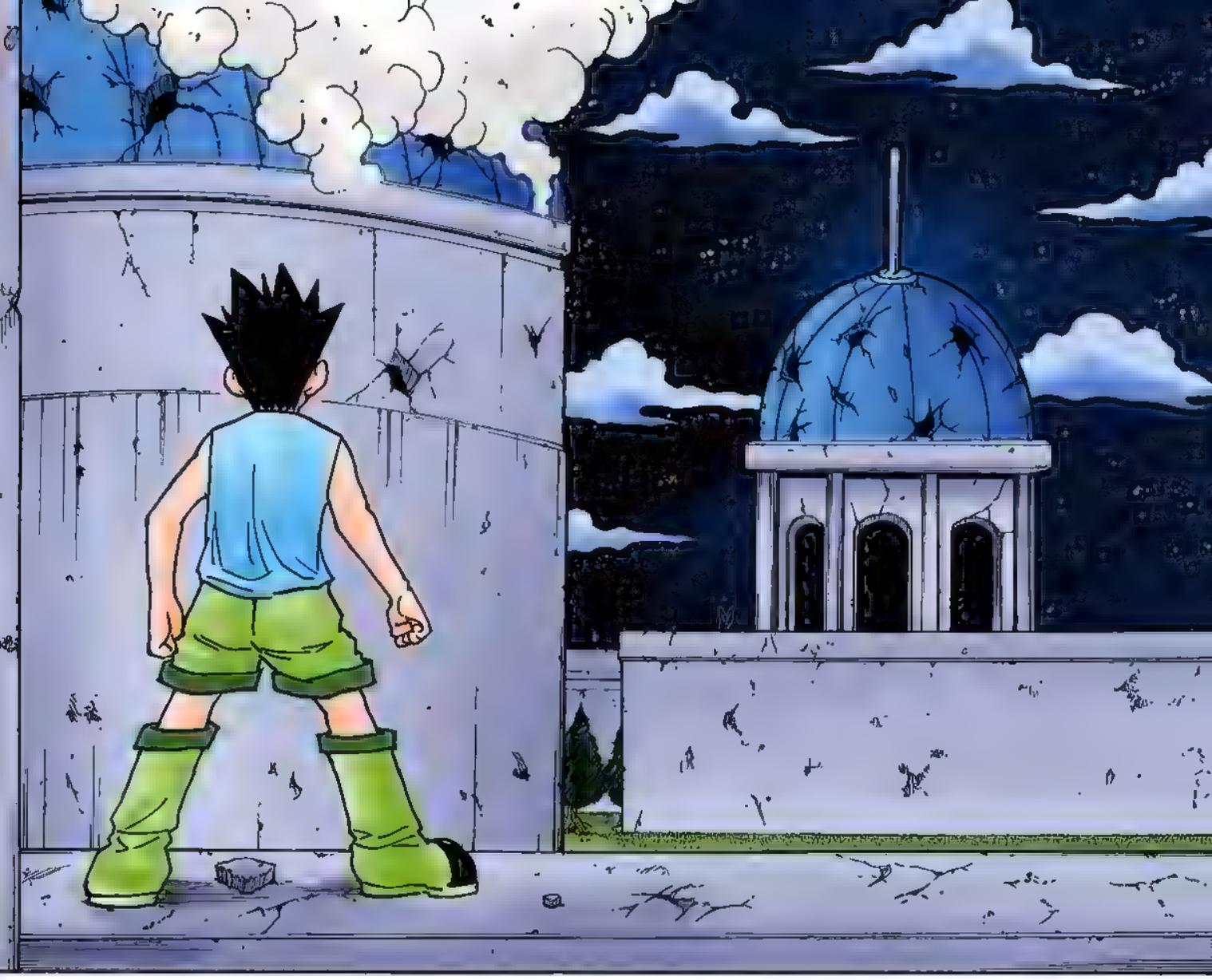
VARIOUS EMOTIONS SWIRLED INSIDE KILLUA'S MIND AS HE CAME TO HIS SENSES.
BUT IKALGO'S WORDS DISPELLED THE CHAOS.
ドシャアア
BY THE TIME THE TWO SOLDIER ANTS CRASHED TO THE GROUND...
...KILLUA WAS FOCUSED ONCE AGAIN.

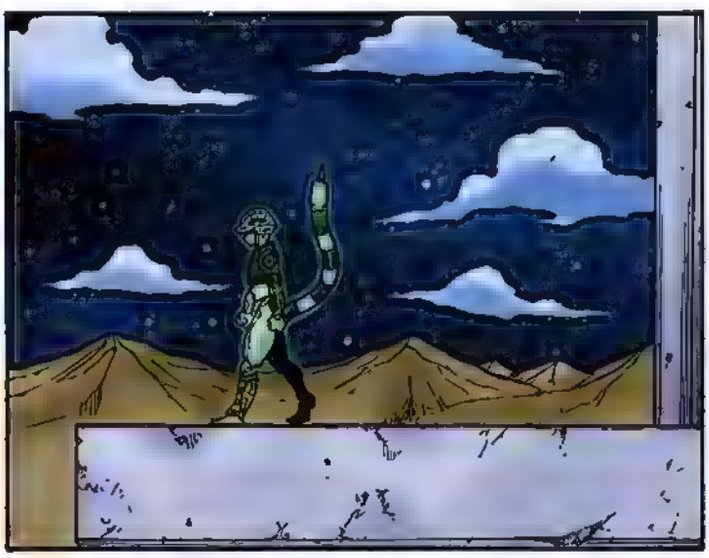

THEY WERE CURRENTLY OCCUPIED BY SOLDIER ANTS.
THE ELEVATOR TO THE BASEMENT WAS IN A HALLWAY WITH ROOMS FOR SERVANTS AT BOTH ENDS.

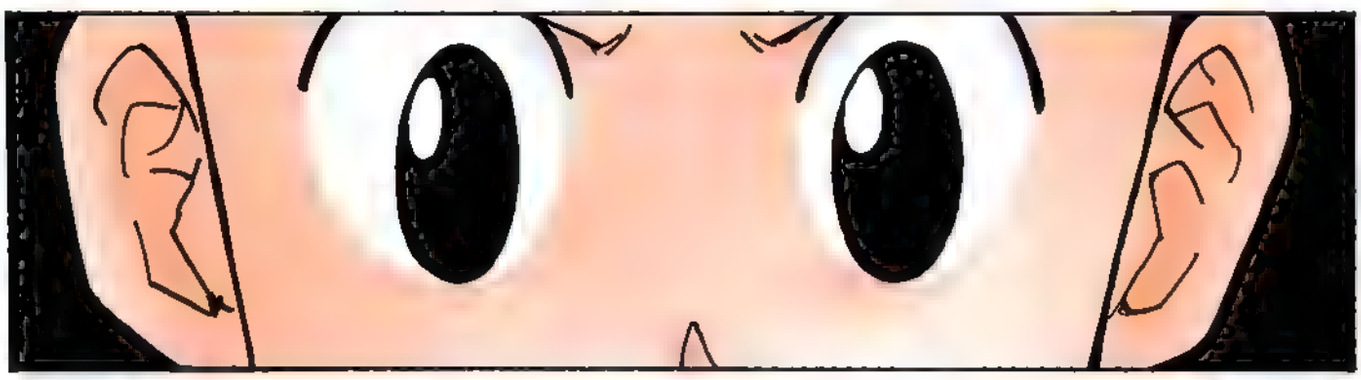

AND AT THE MOMENT WHEN HE REACHED THE ELEVATOR...
IKALGO RACED PAST TWO DEAD SOLDIER ANTS.

...BOTH DOORS OPENED.
SIMULTANEOUSLY...

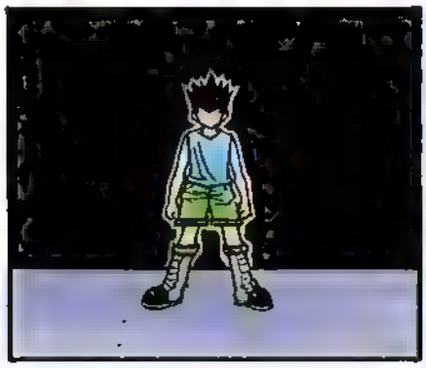

IF IT'S COVERING THE ENTIRE THIRD FLOOR OF THE TOWER...
HE SAID HE'D USE IT TO KEEP POUF AWAY FROM THE KING!!
THAT'S MOREL'S "SMOKY JAIL"...
THEN THE KING AND PITOU AREN'T THERE!!
WHERE ARE THEY?!

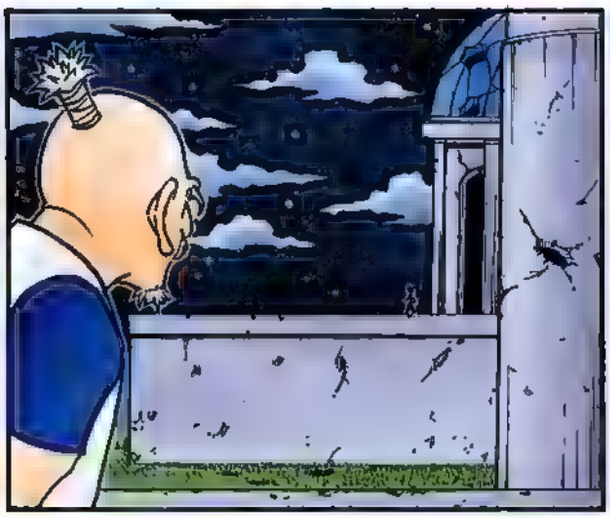






生涯現役





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HUNTER×HUNTER
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Yoshihiro Togashi
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YOSHIHIRO TOGASHI

I'll do my best.

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LOVE
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HUNTER × HUNTER

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本体・表紙

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